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BROAD U.S. PRESSURE CAMPAIGN MAKES SALT TALKS 'DIFFICULT'

LD291218Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 29 Dec 78 LD

[Text] The overwhelming majority of Americans favor a successful completion of the SALT talks. Our correspondent in New York, Vladimir Gerasichev, reports:

Achieving an agreement on this [word indistinct] problem is regarded here by many as the necessary condition for improving Soviet-U.S. relations, as an important factor in consolidating international detente, and a serious contribution to the cause of peace and halting the arms race.

However, one should add that the talks have become especially difficult after a broad campaign to pressure the U.S. delegation into not allowing any new agreements on limiting strategic armaments started in the United States. In recent months dozens of reactionary militarist organizations have been created. Their representatives, mainly retired military personnel, literally bend over backward to intimidate the U.S. public with the negative consequences of the future agreement.

Contrary to facts and logic, they are not ashamed of shouting about an alleged Soviet military threat and of fanning up all over the country by all possible means a new wave of military psychosis. In fairness one should note that very little is being done in the United States to curtail the activities of these hawks. The bourgeois press readily echoes all their arguments in favor of escalating the arms race.

The Americans are being fed with the idea that the agreement being worked out is almost a concession to the Soviet Union. The press publishes authoritative assertions by the Pentagon's specialists that the United States should not conclude a SALT agreement because, they allege, no reliable means of control exist for its observance, and so on and so forth.

However, it is becoming increasingly difficult to mislead the U.S. public today. Today more people here begin to understand the mutually advantageous character of the new SALT agreement with the talks now entering the decisive phase. The polls show that 75 percent of Americans come out for the speediest possible conclusion of the new agreement.

U.S., USSR SALT DELEGATIONS MEET IN GENEVA 28 DEC

LD281732Y Moscow TASS in English 1725 GMT 28 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, December 28, TASS--The heads of the delegations of the USSR and the United States to the Soviet-American negotiations on limitation of strategic offensive armaments held a meeting here today.

USSR CITIES APPREHENSIONS ON PRC AID REQUEST TO UN

ID021822Y Moscow TASS in English 1747 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

[Text] New York, January 2, TASS--The results of the trip made to China by a mission of the U.N. development programme are being commented in the U.N. circles. The mission stayed in Beijing [Peking] in December 1978 in connection with the request of assistance made by the People's Republic of China. In the course of the negotiations, representatives of Beijing demanded for China the status of a developing country and made the condition that in specifying the volume of assistance the U.N. development programme should proceed from the strength of China's population. This would mean that assistance to the People's Republic of China should exceed 100 million dollars, the largest ever figure in the history of the U.N. development programme.

Representatives of developing states at the United Nations express apprehensions that China's claim of about 100 million dollars from the fund of the U.N. development programme could lead to a substantial cut in allocations through this organization to Asian, African and Latin American countries.

Attention is being drawn to the fact that China, which brackets itself as a developing country, spends at the same time huge sums of money--more than 40 percent of its budget--for military purposes: development of nuclear and missile armaments, military aviation, navy, the purchase abroad of the latest types of weapons and military technology.

Even projects of using assistance of the U.N. development programme--mentioned by the Chinese side--echo with the military-strategic programmes of Beijing. Thus, the Chinese leadership should like to use 60 percent of the money from the U.N. development programme to purchase equipment designed for the needs of aviation, electronic industry, telecommunications, etc.

As it became known, representatives of the Chinese Ministry of Economic Relations with Foreign Countries are to come to New York in January this year to continue the negotiations and to sign a relevant agreement with the U.N. development programme.

RELIGIOUS LEADERS LEAVE FOR JAMAICA CONFERENCE

ID291200Y Moscow TASS in English 1125 GMT 29 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 29, TASS--A group of religious leaders of the Soviet Union, members of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches, flew today to Jamaica to participate in meetings of the Central Committee that will be held in Kingston from January 1 to January 11.

Among those who went to Jamaica are Metropolitan Krutitskiy and Kolomenskiy Juvenal, representative of the Russian Orthodox Church, Dr. Yanis Matulis, the archbishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Latvia, Pastor Aleksey Bychkov, the general secretary of the Council of Evangelican Christians-Baptists of the USSR, Bishop Arsen Berberian, representative of the Armenian Church.

MTI INTERVIEWS ZORIN ON SALT, RELATIONS WITH U.S.

LD291204Y Budapest MTI in English 1035 GMT 29 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Budapest, December 29, MTI--"A certain degree of improvement is to be observed in Soviet-American relations recently, and this holds out the realistic possibility that the essentially complete SALT-2 agreement--after clearance of still pending technical details--can be signed at a summit meeting of the two countries to take place probably in the first quarter of the coming year", said the well-known Soviet America expert Valentin Zorin in an interview to MTI's Moscow correspondent.

Zorin went on to point out: "The almost two years elapsed since the Carter administration entered office have proved beyond any doubt that any attempt to pressurize politically, economically, ideologically or psychologically the Soviet Union is doomed to failure. The Soviet Union is a superpower with which one can [word indistinct] an agreement, but of which nothing can be extorted by force. I have the feeling that this truth is finding its way in Washington too. Evidence of that is offered by the progress at the SALT negotiations which had been [word indistinct] earlier by the American side, and also by the visits of the American trade and finance minister, as well as of several American businessmen to the Soviet Union. These signs indicate that it has been recognized on the other shores of the Pacific Ocean that the man-made obstacles in the way of Soviet-American trade, do harm to the United States' economy. Life itself modifies the theoretical theses of the enemies of detente.

"I think we have moved out of the nadir and the two countries' relations are on the rise. This naturally does not mean that all will be easy and simple from now on. I must warn against exaggerated expectations, but both sides must count with the political realities. So must the democratic government nearing halftime of their mandate, which has failed to live up to the promises of curbing inflation, [word indistinct] unemployment and accelerating the pace of (?growth) and which cannot register real foreign political achievements either. The one-and-a-half months I have recently spent in the United States convinced me that the gap between the views of official circles and the public is steadily widening. The majority of the Americans--over 75 percent--favour detente and improvement of Soviet-American relations. The congress of the (?Democratic Party) in Memphis early December and the extremely cool reception of Carter's speech indicate that the party's closer leadership is also discontent with the government. The acute need to reap foreign political success under such conditions must also have played a certain part in the modification of the American delegation's stance at the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks, just as well as it could have motivated the overadvertised Camp David meeting and establishment of diplomatic relations between Washington and Peking."

Valentin Zorin stressed in the talks with MTI's Moscow correspondent: "The last Geneva meeting of the Soviet and American foreign ministers had been preceded by an artificially over-generated expectation to which it failed to fully live up. I think it was not the Soviet side's fault that the meetings ended. The consistent, principled stance of the Soviet Union has remained unchanged: She is seeking improvement of relations with the United States, detente--(?including) also military detente--without violating the principle of equal security of the participants. The 'tough' stance of the American delegation to Geneva was first of all meant to the comfort of the Washington (?foes) of the treaty. The American Government wishes to take at least some of the wind out of the sails of those who oppose ratification of the agreement which will most probably be concluded. At the same time the government also has to take into account the ever firmer demand of the electors who urge an agreement.

In my opinion, for the time being there is a good chance for the sides to complete elaboration of SALT-2 in the near future without a new foreign ministerial consultation, and to submit for signature the final variation to the participants of the American-Soviet summit meeting, which is expected to take place in Washington in the first months of the new year", summed up his opinion Valentin Zorin.

OBSERVERS QUESTION U.S. STATEMENTS ON PRC NORMALIZATION

LD031016Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0130 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Vsevolod Shishkovskiy]

[Text] Official ceremonies to mark the establishment of U.S.-PRC diplomatic relations have been held in Washington and Beijing [Peking]. At a reception in the Chinese Liaison Office in Washington were U.S. Vice President Mondale, Secretary of State Vance and Brzezinski, assistant to the President for national security affairs.

Mondale said in his speech that a new and fruitful era was beginning in U.S.-PRC relations and that the United States and China were united by the concept of common interests. The speeches made by participants at the splendid reception in the Chinese capital were in the same vein. With respect to the obviously mutual desire of Beijing and Washington to stress the importance of the establishment of diplomatic relations between them, some observers are asking whether it isn't a matter of attempts by the Chinese leaders to establish special relations with the leading capitalist state, and whether the gestures of response by the United States do not contradict statements to the effect that normalization with China will not damage Washington's relations with other countries.

U.S. TO CONTINUE TIES, ARMS SUPPLIES TO TAIWAN

OW302107Y Moscow in Mandarin to China 1230 GMT 30 Dec 78 OW

[Text] Through consultations, representatives of the United States and Taiwan have agreed that the governmental ties between Washington and Taipei will continue following the severance of diplomatic relations between them. This decision was reached during the talks held between the representatives of the Taiwan authorities and the U.S. Government delegation led by Christopher, deputy secretary of state of the United States. The talks ended Friday in Taipei. The U.S. Embassy will maintain a de facto presence in Taiwan. The only difference is that it will instead be called the Representative Office of the Government [of the United States]. The United States will (?continue to) develop its trade and economic relations and military contacts with Taiwan, and will continue to provide weapons to Taiwan. Observers note that the Peking leadership clique does not oppose the United States supplying military materiel to Taiwan, and this is the most important concession Peking has made to the United States.

PENTAGON PLANS TO USE MICRONESIA FOR MILITARY PURPOSES

LD291850Y Moscow TASS in English 1824 GMT 29 Dec 78 LD

[Text] New York, December 29, TASS--The United States is stepping up its efforts aimed at the final annexation of Micronesia--a vast territory, consisting of 2,000 islands in the western Pacific.

Following the Mariana Islands, on which the U.S. has imposed a so-called "treaty of cooperation", Washington is speeding up plans for getting its hands on two other archipelagoes making up Micronesia--the Marshal and the Caroline Islands. For this purpose, it is reported, negotiations were started last September, which are to be continued in January. It has been learnt in U.N. circles that discussed during the negotiations was the matter of the payment of rent for the territory of the islands and some other economic aspects, but mainly, the form of annexing the archipelagoes to the U.S.

The Pentagon intends to use these islands for building new war bases in that region. In particular, it is planned to enlarge the already existing firing range on the Kwajelane Atoll, and to create a naval base on the Palau Islands. A similar base will probably be established on the Marianas as well.

The Pentagon is covering up the utilization of these territories for military purposes by staging an election farce on the islands, which are supposed to make up some formation under the name of the "Federal States of Micronesia" or the "Free Association of Micronesia". Actually, no freedom at all is envisaged. In violation of the U.N. Charter, the United States is implementing plans for the actual annexation of these lands which it received in its time as a trusteeship from the U.N., and is unilaterally working for altering the status of Micronesia. Micronesia's strategic position is a crucial factor in evoking Washington's interest in these islands, stresses the magazine U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT.

U.S. BLAMES SAUDI 'INDEPENDENCE' FOR OPEC INCREASE

LD250817Y Moscow TASS in English 0744 GMT 25 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 25, TASS--"Judging by publications in the American press, in the United States they have got vexed by the fact that Riyadh has not justified the hopes laid on it as a proponent and bearer of the interests of Western countries, above all the United States," the newspaper PRAVDA writes today in the article "Iniquitous Wrath". In Washington they expected, the newspaper points out, that Saudi Arabia would be able, if not to prevent a rise in oil prices, but though to make it not higher than 5 per cent. These calculations have not come true. After heated discussions, Riyadh representatives put their signatures to the OPEC's decision to increase prices by 14.5 per cent. Having seemingly been confident that Saudi Arabia under any circumstances should follow in the wake of Washington's policy, in the American capital they have been greately hurt and are now trying to lay on Riyadh almost the main blame for the OPEC's decision. "Until actions and the role of Saudi Arabia were to the liking of the United States, it did not stint compliments towards that country, calling it a 'bastion of stability' and 'the truest ally of the United States' in the Middle East. But as soon as Saudi Arabia's Government took an independent stand, as rough insults were hurled from the overseas, instead of praises" PRAVDA points out.

AMERICAN OPPRESSION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES SCORED

LD020946Y Moscow TASS in English 0803 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Washington, January 2, TASS--The United States authorities' discrimination against national minorities was sharply denounced by the League of United Latin American Citizens. The national president of the league, Eduardo Pena, emphasized that United States citizens of Latin American origin were still one of the most oppressed national minorities in the United States. Discrimination and arbitrariness were particularly widespread in such major spheres as education, the health service and employment.

PEOPLES DAILY ARTICLE ON U.S.-PRC RELATIONS ATTACKED

LD022238Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1750 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Gennadiy Arlyevich]

[Text] The central Chinese newspaper PEOPLE'S DAILY, in connection with the official normalization of Chinese-U.S. relations beginning yesterday, has a big picture on its front page: Deng Xiaoping [Teng Hsiao-ping], vice premier of the State Council, clinks his glass of champagne with that of Leonard Woodcock, chief of the U.S. Liaison Office in Beijing [Peking]. The establishment of normal relations between sovereign states is quite natural. However, as noted in Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's message to President Carter, the U.S.-Chinese communique contains expressions which are undoubtedly aimed in a particular direction--if one takes into account the usual vocabulary of the Chinese leaders. This direction has also found expression on this occasion.

The PEOPLE'S DAILY article is accompanied not by assurances--as in Carter's message to Comrade Brezhnev--that the development of U.S.-Chinese relations will not be directed against the Soviet Union. On the contrary, the newspaper quotes the anti-Soviet attacks made by Deng Xiaoping. A UPI correspondent also draws attention to this. He starts his report from Beijing thus: A day after the normalization of relations between the United States and China, they issued a warning about the greatest threat to peace--the USSR. Everything has been turned upside down, as the saying goes. Meanwhile, the Beijing leaders are looking for support among the most conservative reactionary circles in the West. An AP report says: Today Deng Xiaoping invited U.S. Senator Barry Goldwater, who is known for his racist and anticommunist views, for talks in Beijing. Goldwater is so conservative that he strongly opposed the improvement of relations with China. Evidently, Deng Xiaoping wishes to explain to him personally the basis on which they could reach an amicable agreement. XINHUA [NCNA] reports: Deng expressed his hope that with the establishment of diplomatic relations an ever greater number of U.S. friends will visit China in order to contribute to the development of mutual understanding.

Shortsighted leaders in the West are hoping that they will be able to channel Beijing's aggressive aspirations in the direction of the Soviet Union. It would do no harm to remind those leaders how a similar attempt on the part of Hitler's Reich ended.

U.S.-PRC NORMALIZATION IMPROVES TAIWAN'S SECURITY

OW020806Y Moscow in Mandarin to China 1030 GMT 31 Dec 78 OW

[Mitin commentary: "New Prospects for the New Period"]

[Excerpts] The present position of the Chiang Ching-kuo clique is even more consolidated than it was before normalization of China-U.S. relations. At first glance, this statement seems illogical. As everyone knows, the United States has promised to accept all three conditions set by the Peking leaders: severance of diplomatic relations with Taiwan, withdrawal of U.S. forces from Taiwan and abrogation of the mutual defense treaty. At first glance, this promise seems to be seriously detrimental to the Kuomintang [KMT] clique. But let us take a look at facts, such as the actual effect on Taiwan of the termination of the U.S.-Chiang treaty.

As we all know, the treaty primarily guarantees the Chiang Ching-kuo clique two things--U.S. defense of the Chiang clique against external attack and U.S. arms supplies to Taiwan.

Superficially, the United States will no longer be committed to defend Taiwan when the mutual defense treaty terminates in a year. This is inevitable. However, it is much more important that Washington has obtained concessions from the Peking leaders that render the U.S. defense of Taiwan unnecessary. As everyone knows, Teng Hsiao-ping stated that in the future the Chinese leaders would agree to maintain Taiwan's existing institutions. He made the statement a few days before normalization of China-U.S. relations. People all over the world regard such an unprecedented statement by this vice premier of the Chinese State Council as a plan to renounce the liberation of Taiwan. Is such a situation satisfactory to the Chiang Ching-kuo clique? It certainly is. This situation is even better than the situation in which the Pentagon defends Taiwan. In fact, the American people doubt that U.S. forces would actively react and come to the rescue of the Taiwan regime.

Therefore, Chiang Kai-shek's men today are no doubt even more reassured than before. They know that the Chinese leaders are pursuing the policy of helping the United States in various parts of the world, including the Far East. Recently, the Chinese leaders even supported the fascist regime in South Korea. Then why do the KMT elements in Taiwan have to worry about their future? Moreover, it is still possible for the Chiang Ching-kuo clique to obtain U.S. arms in the future, just as it did in the past. When there is no external threat, the U.S. arms can be used more extensively in maintaining internal security. Explaining the conditions for the normalization of relations with China, the White House spokesman said that the United States would supply Taiwan with necessary weapons after the termination of the mutual defense treaty in 1979. Under the present circumstances, the KMT clique has the opportunity to obtain many more weapons than before. Since Nixon's visit to China in 1972, the KMT rulers have feared that Washington would betray them and that a day would come when Washington will turn them over to Chungnanhai. Now that this fear is gone, the KMT elements can look forward to the future with complete confidence.

PEKING URGING U.S. WEAPONS SALES TO TAIWAN

OW290939Y Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 27 Dec 78 OW

[Mitin commentary]

[Text] The U.S. Export-Import Bank and the Taiwan power company have signed a loan agreement in Washington. The U.S. Government-controlled bank will extend a loan of more than 22 million U.S. dollars to the company for the construction of an atomic power station. It is known that under U.S. assistance, Taiwan long ago began using various forms of atomic piles. However, recently foreign newspapers have frequently pointed out that the Chiang Ching-kuo clique has the capability of producing atom bombs. As to conventional weapons, judging by all indications, the Kuomintang regime possesses greater possibilities now than ever before in this respect. The New York TIMES points out that the Taiwan regime is quite confident that it will get the most-up-to-date American weapons, which the United States has refused to provide in the past. AP reports: The Kuomintang chief of general staff has called on the United States to supply Taiwan with the new F-16 and F-18 aircraft, which fly more than three times as fast as the aircraft of China's PLA Air Force. It is generally felt that the request will be met. It is easier now to provide these aircraft than before normalization of relations, because it is no longer necessary to worry about Chungnanhai's unfavorable reactions. Since the founding of the People's Republic of China, Peking for the first time is urging and approving U.S. weapons sales to the Kuomintang regime.

USSR, GDR SIGN PROTOCOL ON EXCHANGE OF GOODS

LD021736Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

[Text] As a result of talks between government delegations from the USSR and the GDR, a protocol on goods exchange between the two countries for 1979 has been signed in Moscow.

The signing of this document has created propitious preconditions for the further systematic development of foreign economic ties between the two countries and for a successful implementation of the comprehensive program for socialist economic integration of the CEMA member states.

Machine tools, energy equipment, diesel locomotives, tractors, trucks and cars will be delivered to the GDR from the USSR. The GDR will continue to receive significant quantities of basic raw goods and materials, including coal, oil, ores and natural gas from the Soviet Union.

Deliveries from the GDR will include, first and foremost, machines and equipment. Significant quantities of machine tools, agricultural machinery, railway cars, vessels, instruments and equipment for food processing, printing and other light industries will be delivered. The GDR will continue its traditional exports to the Soviet Union of various consumer goods, clothing and knitwear articles, furniture, electrical and lighting goods.

SOVIET-HUNGARIAN TRADE PROTOCOL FOR 1979 REPORTED

LD021353Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Dec 78 p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--Talks between Soviet and Hungarian government delegations have ended in Moscow. They resulted in the signing of a protocol on trade between the USSR and Hungary for 1979 to the value of R4.8 billion.

The USSR will supply Hungary with metal-cutting machine tools, mining equipment, computer equipment, agricultural and roadbuilding machinery, tractors, automobiles and trucks. With the supplies from the Soviet Union Hungary will meet a substantial part of its requirements for basic fuels and raw materials, electricity, iron ore, nonferrous metals and timber.

Supplies of communications equipment, computers, food-industry and chemical equipment will form an important part of USSR imports from Hungary. The increasing reciprocal supplies of industrial consumer goods and foodstuffs will help to satisfy the increasing needs of both countries' more fully and to broaden the range of goods available.

The protocol was signed by M.R. Kuzmin, USSR deputy minister of foreign trade, and J. Biro, Hungarian minister of foreign trade.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA ARTICLE MARKS YUGOSLAV ARMY JUBILEE

LD290953Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Dec 78 p 3 LD

[Capt N. Andreyev article: "On Guard Over Peaceful Labor"]

[Excerpts] The peoples of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and its servicemen tomorrow celebrate the 37th anniversary of the formation of the Yugoslav People's Army.

The Yugoslav People's Army today is a modern army standing guard over the peaceful creative work of Socialist Yugoslavia's peoples.

In the past training year the servicemen of the Yugoslav People's Army have labored with particular enthusiasm. In honor of the 11th LCY Congress socialist competition was conducted in the army for the title of best unit and for a higher standard of field, air and naval skill. The Yugoslav servicemen are summing up the results of this competition on the eve of their portentous festival.

Army organizations of the LCY and of the League of Socialist Youth of Yugoslavia, which are orienting the communists, the members of the League of Socialist Youth of Yugoslavia, and all the personnel toward the further enhancement of the troops' combat readiness, are playing a mobilizing role in the fulfillment of combat training tasks.

The friendship and mutually useful cooperation between the servicemen of the Soviet Armed Forces and the Yugoslav People's Army are continuing to develop. Military delegations and warships make exchange visits. Military training establishments, military publishing houses and museums and military historians and artists maintain businesslike contacts.

Loyal to the heroic traditions of Soviet-Yugoslav brotherhood-in-arms, the Soviet servicemen congratulate the servicemen of the Yugoslav People's Army on their festival, wish them new successes in improving their combat skill and express confidence that the friendly ties between our countries' armed forces will continue to develop and strengthen for the benefit of the peoples of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia and the cause of peace and socialism.

TITOGRAD DINNER SPEECH BY USSR'S SOLOMENTSEV REPORTED

LD291627Y Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 22 Dec 78 p 3 LD

[TASS report: "On a Tour of the Country"]

[Text] Titograd, 21 December--An RSFSR Government delegation headed by M.S. Solomentsev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, arrived in Titograd today on a friendly visit.

On the same day the delegation was received by V. Srzentic, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium and chairman of the League of Communists of Montenegro Central Committee. During the talk, which passed in a warm, friendly atmosphere, satisfaction was expressed with the development of mutually advantageous Soviet-Yugoslav cooperation in accordance with joint documents signed at the highest level.

Talks then took place between the government delegations of the RSFSR and the Socialist Republic of Montenegro. The sides briefed each other on the implementation of plans for communist and socialist building in the two countries, on the development of their republics' economy and on their active participation in economic and cultural cooperation between the USSR and Yugoslavia.

V. Milatovic, president of the Socialist Republic of Montenegro and head of the Montenegro government delegation, gave a dinner in honor of the RSFSR envoys.

Welcoming the RSFSR envoys, V. Milatovic expressed confidence that the delegation's visit will promote not only the development of ties between the two republics but also the expansion of cooperation between Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union. [paragraph continues]

Our peoples' destinies have repeatedly been interwoven in the distant past and in recent times, he said. During World War II, when fascism enslaved nearly the whole of Europe, the Montenegrins rose to the struggle against the Hitlerite aggressors. The Montenegrin people, together with other Yugoslav peoples, did everything possible in the battle for their country's liberation, at the same time manifesting solidarity with the countries of the anti-Hitler coalition, above all the Soviet Union.

Participating actively in the building of socialism on the basis of self-management and the equality of the Yugoslav peoples, Montenegro, in particular, has made its contribution to the development of cooperation with the Soviet Union. Relations between the two countries are built on the basis of the well-known principles which are enshrined in the documents on meetings and talks between J. Broz Tito, president of Yugoslavia and chairman of the LCY, and L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

I have great pleasure, M.S. Solomentsev said in his answering speech, in coveying to you and through you to all the working people of Montenegro fraternal greetings from the working people of our republic and of the Soviet Union as a whole, from our country's leadership, and from Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev personally.

For several days now we have been familiarizing ourselves with your remarkable country. We have had many interesting meetings with statesmen, party and economic leaders and representatives of public organizations and labor collectives. Today we had cordial, friendly talks with Montenegrin leaders, during which an interest in developing close cooperation between Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union was expressed. We welcome this as further convincing evidence that the further deepening of Soviet-Yugoslav ties accords with the basic interests of our countries' peoples.

An important factor in the development of relations between the Soviet Union and Socialist Yugoslavia, the speaker continued, is the cooperation between the CPSU and the LCY and the meetings and talks between top-level party and state figures.

We are convinced that the strict observance of the principles and agreements enshrined in joint Soviet-Yugoslav documents on the results of meetings between Comrade L.I. Brezhnev and Comrade J. Broz Tito and concern for strengthening trust and mutual understanding are a reliable basis for further consolidating the friendship between our countries and peoples.

We have broad opportunities for the all-round development of Soviet-Yugoslav cooperation in various spheres. Direct contacts have been established between the two countries' ministries and departments and public organizations. Friendly ties are being established directly between the republics.

Going on to dwell on the Soviet people's successes in fulfilling the socioeconomic program advanced by the 25th CPSU Congress, M.S. Solomentsev observed that realization of the tremendous potential of developed socialism is making it possible to advance successfully toward the goals for which the Great October Socialist Revolution was accomplished--to constantly improve the life of the working people. The population's real incomes are increasing and the standard of living is being elevated in terms of all the main indicators. This year alone, the RSFSR'S workers will have received 1.3 million new, well-appointed apartments.

Concern for the people's welfare and the creation of conditions for the all-round prosperity of the individual are the main factors in the activity of the CPSU and Soviet state. Only under socialism is respect for political, civil, economic, social, cultural and other rights and freedoms really guaranteed.

The struggle for a peaceful life and for the security of the peoples accords with our creative deeds. At the present time the world is experiencing a difficult and crucial period when, alongside significant positive changes, the forces of imperialism and reaction have become appreciably more active. In this situation we must constantly display high vigilance in order to prevent a return to the past and to consolidate the detente process.

In the struggle for peace and security, the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia are marching together and are coming forward with important, enterprising proposals for strengthening detente on the European Continent and throughout the world. They made a weighty contribution to the work of the Belgrade meeting of representatives of those states which participated in the all-European conference.

The joint efforts of our countries in the struggle for peace and the energetic actions of all peace-loving forces and of the socialist and nonalined countries in defending and deepening detente, the head of the RSFSR government delegation stressed, give us confidence of insuring peaceful conditions for life on earth.

CALLAGHAN INTERVIEW ON GUADELOUPE SUMMIT NOTED

LD022348Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1915 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

[Text] London, 2 January, TASS--In a radio interview, British Prime Minister J. Callaghan spoke about the coming meeting in Guadeloupe on 5-6 January of the leaders of the United States, Britain, France and the FRG. He stressed that this meeting will be of more political than economic nature. The "Big Four" of the capitalist world will in fact try to coordinate their approach to the solution of a number of urgent international problems.

Among these problems, J. Callaghan especially mentioned relations with the Soviet Union and Soviet-U.S. talks on the limitation of strategic armaments and their importance for Britain, France and the FRG.

SOVIET-SWEDISH COOPERATION IN SPACE RESEARCH REVIEWED

LD021830Y Moscow TASS in English 1755 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, January 2, TASS--TASS correspondent Rena Kuznetsova writes:

The Soviet automatic "Prognoz-7" station launched on October 30, 1978, within the framework of international cooperation is successfully implementing, among others, a Soviet-Swedish experiment. The experiment is conducted with the use of a mass-spectrometer designed by Swedish specialists with the participation of Soviet experts. The aim of the research effort is to study the activity of the sun and its influence on interplanetary space. The Soviet-Swedish experiment is carried out within the framework of an agreement between the academies of sciences of the Soviet Union and Sweden.

Possible in the future, in the opinion of specialists, is a complex and scientifically promising integrated experiment to study the physics of the processes of magnetosphere.

Joint Soviet-Swedish experiments have already been undertaken previously. Thus, in 1976, the Lebedev Physics Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences, the Crimea Astrophysics Observatory and Lunds Universtiy (Sweden) conducted on board Intercosmos-16 an experiment to study the sun!s ultraviolent radiation.

Swedish specialists with the participation of Soviet scientists have developed and manufactured a spectrometer and polymeter and took part in installing it in the satellite. With the use of a satellite it is possible to study the transition area between the sun's corona and chromosphere which is visible as a thin red rim around the disc during a solar eclipse. At present, the Soviet Union and Sweden are discussing possibilities of staging other joint experiments to study peace, including, among others, development of space technology.

PRC COULD TURN MILITARY AID AGAINST WESTERN COUNTRIES

LD291247Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Dec 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[N. Paklin article: "Arms for China"]

[Text] Numerous delegations of Chinese emissaries are scurrying between Peking and West European capitals. They include high-ranking officials directly or indirectly connected with the military industry and high-ranking officers and generals. They are visiting military plants, scientific research institutions developing new types of armaments and all sorts of arms exhibitions. The aim of their trips is to purchase sophisticated weapons.

What does this actually involve?

In Britain Chinese emissaries have set themselves the aim of acquiring, to start with, a consignment of Harrier aircraft. These VTOL aircraft are highly sophisticated. The Western press notes that China intends to station these aircraft on the border with our country.

In France talks are underway about a whole "bouquet" of various arms. "The furthest developed project," the well-informed French weekly L'EXPRESS wrote, "concerns approximately 15,000 'Milan' and 'Hot' antitank missiles, 'Gazelle' helicopters, trucks and armored vehicles, artillery pieces and 'Crotale' air defense missiles. Mention should also be made of missile-carrying launches, torpedo boats, a naval version of the 'Crotale' missile, and electronic underwater bugging apparatus....The question of selling 'Mirage 2000' aircraft is also being discussed. [quotation marks as published] The magazine reports that the approximate cost of this military equipment will be $500-900 million. Here it should also be borne in mind that the Chinese leaders, having obtained the relevant models of West European arms, intend to set up production in their own country, with the suppliers' agreement.

In an attempt to justify in public eyes the supply of sophisticated arms to China, the West European capitals allege that they are of a "defensive" nature. Such assertions are highly unconvincing. In the hands of the Chinese militarists any weapon, irrespective of how it is classified in the West, will serve the aims of the implementation of their great-power expansionist plans. As for the Harrier aircraft, even the conservative British newspaper THE FINANCIAL TIMES was obliged to admit that these aircraft "will give China offensive potential." The same can be said of the Mirage-2000 aircraft and other combat equipment.

...any coin has two sides. In arming China, imperialist circles are trying to play the "China card" against the Soviet Union. That is one side of the coin. But when it has armed itself China could turn its gaze not only north but also, let us say, west or east, that is, to those regions of Asia where Britain and France have extensive interests. That is the other side of the coin. The possibility of such a turn of events cannot be discounted. All the more so since China makes territorial claims against almost all its neighbors. "In contrast to any other country, global cooperation is this (that is the military) sphere with China can cause strategic consequences of which both Europe and Japan must beware," the author of an article in the Swiss newspaper JOURNAL DE GENEVE notes in this connection. It is impossible not to agree with this way of posing the question.

BRITAIN WARNED AGAINST PLAYING 'CHINA CARD'

LD292002Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1546 GMT 29 Dec 78 LD

["Dangerous Intentions"--TASS headline]

[Excerpts] Moscow, 29 December--TASS political observer Igor Orlov writes:

In Britain, as in several other NATO countries, the Chinese militarists are looking for support among the most conservatively minded reactionary circles, blinded by their malice toward the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. A vivid example is the British Conservative leader, Margaret Thatcher, who together with the Maoists proclaims that Soviet Union as "the No 1 enemy." She indulged in such exercises during her visit to Peking, where attacks rang out from both sides against the USSR and the policy of detente, accompanied by blatant appeals for an intensification of the arms race.

Of course, even such shortsighted politicians as Thatcher cannot overlook the expansionist hegemonistic wishes of Peking which, as is well known, has territorial claims against all its neighbors, while toward some of them it is already openly pursuing an aggressive policy. Nonetheless, shortsighted Western politicians are nurturing the hope that Peking's aggressive wishes can be "channeled" toward the Soviet Union in approximately the same scenario as that drawn up by the West for Hitler's Reich on the eve of World War II. At that time, the calculations of those who wanted to play the "German card" failed. Instead of the "Drang Nach Osten" which the West tried to foist on Germany, the result was a "Drang Nach Westen." Today it is relevent to recall this for those who want to play the "Chinese card."

It may be advisable to recall Mao Tse-tung's statement that he had no objection to the death of most of mankind in another world war. In so saying, he himself, of course, expected at least half of the remainder of mankind to be Chinese. But on what outcome for Britain from such a war (in view of its size, population density and situation) could those who now wish to play the "Chinese card" count? And who can give them a guarantee that they themselves and their compatriots will not prove to be among the less fortunate part of mankind which the Maoists are so lightly ready to sacrifice?

In that case, it is worthwhile encouraging and inciting those who openly proclaim that "war is a completely normal phenomenon and therefore inevitable?" And at the same time, is it worthwhile scorning the established relations between the Soviet Union and Britain, which withstood serious tests in World War II, that difficult period for both countries?

FRENCH NUCLEAR DEAL WITH PRC CALLED 'SHORT-SIGHTED'

LD301418Y Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 30 Dec 78 LD

[Text] The State Department has announced that the United States has decided not to object to France's plans to sell China nuclear reactors that include American components. And now an opinion from a TASS agency news analyst, Igor Orlov:

The Franco-Chinese agreement on the sale of nuclear power units was signed this month in Peking. According to reports, the shipments will be made by the French firm Framatome, which is making reactors under licence from Westinghouse. The sanction from Washington will no doubt speed up the deal. The question arises: Whose interests is the deal in?

The statements that the reactors are intended for peaceful purposes only give no answer to a number of logical questions. For instance, can anyone give a strict guarantee that the used nuclear rods won't be reprocessed and later used for military purposes, especially since it's been reported in the foreign media that China already has the units for extracting plutonium from used nuclear fuel from power reactors, the same kind of plutonium that's used to make nuclear weapons.

The second point of no small significance is that as a nuclear power China could make its own nuclear reactors for peaceful purposes, and so it would seem that China is trying to increase its overall nuclear potential by ordering reactors from the West. Is it safe to encourage such deals in the light of Peking's great nation hegemonic plans? After all, China has made claims on all its neighbors' territories and has even taken forcible action on these claims. Just recently the Chinese minister of defense once again said that war is a very normal phenomenon and therefore is inevitable. Peking's leaders have also said on many occasions that a future war is seen there as a nuclear war. In the light of these facts it would seem short-sighted to say the least to encourage Peking's nuclear ambitions.

DISAGREEMENT ON EMS CONTRASTED WITH CEMA SUCCESS

LD302332Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1409 GMT 30 Dec 78 LD

["Two Results"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 30 December--TASS observer Sergey Stoklitskiy writes:

"The European Monetary System is Skidding," "Storm Over the Zone of Monetary Stability, The Common Market"--it sounds as if the festive wrapping of the widely advertised monetary system of the community won't be coming off on 1 January. In this gloomy way the Western press has reacted to France's decision to block the European Monetary System of the EEC countries from coming into force at the beginning of next year.

At first glance it seems paradoxical that this decision should have been made by one of the instigators of the plan which has been defending it so zealously throughout the year. But in reality it is a natural manifestation of those painful ailments which always accompany capitalist integration.

The profound disagreement among the Nine on many questions of the economic policy of the community is not a good basis for the implementation of the large scale plans for monetary integration. It is not fortuitous that the direct cause of the present crisis has been serious disagreements between the "coauthors" of the EMS plan--Paris and Bonn--on the questions of the common agricultural policy. In a word, the worm of contradictions continues to gnaw away at the foundation of the building of little Europe.

Against this background the processes of socialist economic integration stand out in contrast. The year 1979 is beginning full of dynamism for CEMA, the year of its 30th anniversary. In the last 7 years the industrial production of the CEMA countries has grown by 65 percent, while that of the Western European countries belonging to the EEC has grown by only 17 percent.

While integration is going extremely painfully in the West and the "partners" do not let a chance go by to enrich themselves at each other's expense, the activity of the CEMA member countries is aimed at the planned levelling out and coming together of the levels of their development, at the harmonious linking of their national interests with the interests of the community.

This is where the attracting force of the first international organization of the new type in the world comes from. Originally linking only the European countries, CEMA has today become an organization of intercontinental scale. Mongolia and Cuba have joined Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia. In this past year Socialist Vietnam was accepted as a full member of the fraternal CEMA family. The advantages of planned socialist economy, strengthened and united by the principles of socialist internationalism forms the monolithic foundation on which the main program for CEMA activity is being implemented: the all-round program for socialist economic integration.

These are the two results: the results of Western and Eastern economic integration.

SOVIET MEDIA CONTINUE TO COMMENT ON SITUATION IN IRAN

Yevgenyev Warns Against 'Interference'

LD021607Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Dec 78 p 5 LD

[Petr Yevgenyev commentary: "Interference Inadmissible"]

[Text] Massive antigovernment demonstrations are continuing in Iran. Under these conditions the ruling circles and the American special group which arrived in the Iranian capital recently in the guise of advisers are preoccupied with seeking a way out of the situation which has arisen. The fate of the regime remains the main question here.

As reported, the above-mentioned American group contains about 60 people--representatives of the CIA, the State Department and other government departments from across the ocean. Formally, this "landing group" has allegedly been brought in to obtain first-hand information. But in practice its members are seeking figures who, in their view, might be included in a new government, and they are formulating recommendations on the form in which to maintain the shah's power. According to the foreign press, the special group is not operating in isolation from [deystvuyet ne bez svyazi s] the Iran secret police, SAVAK. The group is formulating "recommendations" which suit the American oil and military monopolies but run counter to the Iranian people's interests and jeopardize Iran's sovereignty and independence.

Speaking at a Washington press conference, a White House spokesman confirmed that the U.S. Embassy in Tehran has contacts with opposition leaders. Some commentators believe that Washington would be quite content with a situation in which the shah left the country temporarily and a civilian government including a number of representatives of the opposition movement was set up. A so-called governing council would assume the functions of head of state and supreme commander in chief. In looking at one candidate after another to head the Iranian Government the American special group is striving to find people who would help to preserve U.S. positions in the country.

The possibility of finding other alternative solutions to the crisis situation is not ruled out in Iran. A great deal will obviously depend on the extent to which the main forces active in the political arena--the head of state, the army and the opposition--are able to reach a compromise. But at the same time it remains a fact that the American special group is exerting an influence on the situation in Iran in the context of solving the political crisis.

This constitutes [nalitso] American interference, which is causing legitimate protest among broad circles of the Iranian public. This interference is inadmissible and contradicts the norms of international law.

As for the Soviet Union, which maintains traditional neighborly relations with Iran, as already stated authoritatively and decisively, it is against outside interference in Iran's internal affairs by anybody in any form under any pretext. Events of an internal nature are taking place in Iran, and the Iranians themselves must resolve the questions linked with this.

'Rejoinder' Denies USSR Interference

LD030620Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0448 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Moscow: PRAVDA today publishes a rejoinder (replika) entitled "Vain Fabrications." It says:

More and more reports are appearing in the U.S. press about the possibility of U.S. warships being sent to the Persian Gulf. "A U.S. Navy task force with an aircraft carrier as its flagship," writes the New York TIMES, for instance, "is the most effective form of a demonstration of force...."

Although Washington is giving assurances that there is no intention of sending warships into Iranian waters, the American press continues to discuss such plans.

And this discussion, as at the wave of a conductor's baton, is more and more actively accompanied by fabrications directed against the Soviet Union. The American papers reproduce the statements of unidentified "informed persons" of the need "not to permit Soviet interference" in the affairs of Iran. There are increasingly numerous references to "the growing role of the USSR" and certain "pro-Soviet forces" in the development of internal political events in Iran.

It is well-known that the Soviet Union has not interfered and is not interfering in the internal affairs of Iran. This is perfectly well-known by those who are spreading these provocative anti-Soviet fabrications. And even the very discussion of plans for sending U.S. warships into the Persian Gulf comprises a real demonstration of force, an attempt, obvious to everyone, to exert direct pressure on the development of events in Iran. Not for nothing does the American press itself admit that there is concern in Washington over the fate of huge arsenals of weapons delivered to Iran, further orders for arms worth many billions which the U.S. military-industrial complex would not like to lose, and over maintaining oil deliveries; and this is why there is concern about affairs in Iran and the opinion that events in that country "are too long drawn out."

It is quite clear that there should not be any external interference in questions which only the Iranian people themselves have the right to solve. The Soviet people hold firmly to this position and consider any interference in Iran's affairs impermissible, whatever the pretext for it.

Azhari's Military Government Scored

LD022128Y Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

[Igor Shevtunov commentary]

[Text] In their comments on the resignation of Iranian Prime Minister General Azhari, Western news agencies write: The government of General Azhari has not carried out the duties that were assigned it. Two months ago, when a civilian government was replaced by a military government, according to the New York TIMES, General Azhari, who headed this government, was commissioned to crush the massive national demonstrations with an iron fist and to put an end to the strike struggle, which had engulfed the entire country.

U.S. military advisers, while inciting the Iranian Army to crush the national demonstrations, struggled with all their power to [words indistinct] and the elimination of the domination of foreign monopolies. Hundreds of CIA officials arrived in the country in order to assist the tens of thousands of U.S. military advisers, who have been active for many years in Iran. In addition, a number of aircraft loaded with military equipment for the dispersal of demonstrators were hurriedly sent to Iran.

During the 2-month rule of the military government, not a day passed without the shooting and wounding of a great number of Iranian inhabitants. The military authorities struggled to get the striking workers back by force. According to reports by U.S. correspondents themselves, the Iranian Army--spurred on by U.S. military advisers--in addition to using firearms, used tanks against demonstrators in Tehran, Mashhad, Qazvin and other Iranian cities.

But none of these actions attained the results anticipated by Washington. The National Front, which is opposed to the regime, issued a statement on the cruelty of the militarists and pointed out that the authorities cannot resolve the country's political crisis by massacring thousands of people. Seven hundred medical workers in Mashhad asked UN Secretary General Waldheim to take measures to stop the bloody massacres in Iran. Even U.S. newspapers which, until recently, had told Azhari's military government not to be shy in its choice of means, now admit to the fact that the people of Iran have, during the past 2 months, become more united than ever before in the struggle for fundamental reforms in the country. For example, the New York TIMES writes: It is now clear that farmers, tradesmen and the majority of the middle classes wish to topple the present regime and that the fact is becoming increasingly clear that the opposition represents the majority of the people in the country.

From this viewpoint, it was best that General Azhari announced the resignation of his military government. But as is known, the U.S. imperialists wish to continue as before--awkwardly interfering in Iran's internal affairs. UPI's news about the ordering of the aircraft carriers Constellation and Midway and accompanying warships to the Persian Gulf testify to this. It is said openly in Washington that the presence of warships on the shores is necessary as a show of power, and indications are that they might be used under the pretext of evacuating Americans from Iran.

This is not the first time that the Iranian people have faced this kind of military pressure from Western governments. Suffice it to say that the British [name indistinct] warship was sent during the years of the oil industry's nationalization movement by the British colonialists to Abadan harbor. At that time, the colonialists struggled relentlessly to extend the area of mastery of the plundering British oil companies, which mercilessly looted Iranian black gold.

In view of recent measures taken by the U.S. militarists, it is clear that gunboat diplomacy has not yet been relegated to the archives of history, as it may be utilized one day.

Bakhtiar Comments on Shah

LD022356Y Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Massive demonstrations in Tehran and other Iranian cities today often turned into street fighting with troops. The economic situation grew even worse when railwaymen joined striking oil workers and those in other industries.

The disturbances in Iran are showing more signs of anti-American feeling. People involved in massive demonstrations are demanding an end to U.S. interference in the country's affairs. A UPI correspondent quotes an American before his departure from Tehran as saying Iranians are telling the Americans to get out of Iran. A growing number of anti-American posters are appearing on the walls of buildings and shopwindows in Tehran.

A leaflet circulated in Tehran speaks of a plan to suppress the popular uprising drawn up by the shah, his generals and advisers from the CIA, the Pentagon and the State Department.

The plan adopted at a meeting on 28 December includes two phases: It makes Shahpur Bakhtiar, the man who has agreed to become prime minister, responsible for the first phase. Then, a group of senior army officers will take power in the country to try to suppress popular actions by severe terror.

Iran's prime minister-designate, Shahpur Bakhtiar, said in Tehran today that the shah had agreed to go abroad for a rest and to appoint a Regency Council. In an interview with French television, Mr Bakhtiar said he had not demanded that the shah leave. But the shah has agreed to go abroad to rest and to appoint a Regency Council, said Mr Bakhtiar.

Bakhtiar Presents Political Program

LD022332Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

[Text] "Yankees Get Out of Iran"--UPI begins its latest report from Tehran with these words. It is noted in the dispatch that disturbances in Iran are increasingly and clearly taking an anti-American direction. Powerful demonstrations took place yesterday and today in the Iranian capital as well as in the towns of Mianeh, Gorgan, (Nagad) Rezaiyeh, Tabriz, Zanjan, Hamadan, Rudbar, Langarud and Rasht. Security forces again used firearms. People have been killed and wounded. Railway workers have joined striking white and blue collar workers in the oil industry, the national aviation company, the post office, newspapers, the international telephone center and customs houses. Passenger and freight train traffic has been completely stopped. All airports are closed.

Bakhtiar, candidate for Iranian prime minister, who before his exclusion from the opposition National Front represented its moderate wing, set out his political platform on the radio. He stated his adherence to the course which Mossadeq, the former prime minister and leader of the National Front overthrown as a result of CIA intrigues carried out in the early 1950's.

In his address, Bakhtiar did not once mention the fate of the throne, even though the opposition is insisting on the liquidation of the monarchy. He talked in very vague language about removing the bans on the activity of political parties. And at the same time he appealed for an end to strikes and for Iranians to reject the present methods of struggle that are being used to satisfy their rights.

A closed session of the Majlis and Senate will take place on Wednesday. The issue of the formation of a new government will be discussed then.

Dissatisfaction is growing in Iranian military circles at prospects of creating a civilian government. There is much talk of a possible military coup.

'Tremendous Danger' of U.S. Action

LD021438Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1200 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "Against the Serious Actions by the United States in the Arabian Gulf Region"]

[Text] Arab news agencies and press have pointed out that anti-American demonstrations in Iran are spreading.

The demonstrators are indignantly condemning interference by the United States and its attempts to maintain the present regime with every means, including sending U.S. naval vessels, among them an aircraft carrier, to the Arabian gulf.

Reports from Tehran state that controllers in the capital's airport have declared a boycott on U.S. and Israeli aircraft in protest against the intervention of the United States and Israel in Iran's affairs. Opposition representatives previously warned the United States and Israel that they would be denied Iranian petroleum. Many Arab observers have also described the U.S. intervention in Iran, and in particular the threat to use force in the Arabian gulf region, not only as being an action hostile to Iran but also as being a tremendous danger to the Arab countries in the region.

So history is repeating itself, as the saying goes. At the same time in January 22 years ago the famous Dulles-Eisenhower principles were made public in Washington whereby the United States claimed the right to armed intervention in the countries of the Middle East in the event that anything which did not please Washington occurred. It appears that the laurels of the holders of the Dulles-Eisenhower principles are disturbing the sleep of the present U.S. administration.

However, the notorious end to these principles, which were firmly rejected by the vast majority of the Arab and other countries in the Middle East, should be pointed out. The developments in Iran and reactions in the Arab world now indicate that the times of resolving problems through gunboat diplomacy are long past. It is clear that this policy ultimately works against those who pursue it.

Another useful lesson of the Iranian events, regardless of the outcome, is that the gambling of any regime on Washington is sooner or later bound to fail. Observers in the Arab world have pointed out that this primarily concerns those who fully rely on Uncle Sam and disregard the legitimate rights of their peoples and the other Arab peoples.

U.S. 'Special Mission'

LD021844Y Tashkent in Persian to the Near and Middle East 1600 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

[Text] The critical situation continues in Iran. On New Year's Day, new mass demonstrations took place against the existing regime and U.S. intervention in the country's affairs. The armed forces ruthlessly crushed the demonstrators. Thousands were either killed or wounded. Fresh army units entered the capital and other cities in order to disperse demonstrators. In the meantime, the shah has accepted the resignation of General Azhari, head of the military government, who had been appointed to that post at the beginning of November in order to put an end to the national demonstrations. The shah invited Shahpur Bakhtiar, the public figure, to form a civilian government. The opposition National Front expelled Bakhtiar from its ranks because he agreed to cooperate with the ruling regime.

A special mission made up of CIA operatives and officials from the State Department and other U.S. organizations has begun intensive activities in Iran with the aim of preventing the development of the course of events in Iran, which is not to the United States' liking. U.S. information organs report that Washington is seriously studying the question of dispatching U.S. ships to Iranian shores. A special group [words indistinct] led by Joseph [name indistinct], assistant to [word indistinct] to the U.S. President for national security affairs, is directly engaged in (?studying) this issue.

Another group--the so-called group for assessing the situation in Iran--led by David Newson, under secretary for political affairs, [words indistinct].

Political quarters deem these measures on Washington's part to be tantamount to yet another attempt to influence the development of Iranian events.

PRAVDA on Iranian Events

LD201609 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 December carries on page five under the general heading "The Situation Continues to Grow More Complex" a Tehran dispatch dated 23 December in which correspondent A. Filippov reports that Iranian ruling circles have held consultations with certain opposition leaders to explore the possiblity of setting up a coalition government. He points out that the leader of the National Front has declined to participate in any government as long as the shah remains in power, and that a U.S. representative has participated in these consultations.

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 December 1978 carries on page five under the general heading "The Opposition's Adamant Demand" a 200-word Tehran dispatch by A. Filippov citing the Iran Political Digest on "unconcealed U.S. interest" in the continuing efforts of the shah's court and military leaders to form a civilian coalition government including opposition forces.

2 January Developments

LD022014Y Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Anti-government demonstrations took place in Tehran and other Iranian cities again today. Clashes occurred between the armed forces and demonstrators in the Iranian capital, where a number of people were killed. Thousands of people gathered near the mosque in the city of Mashhad to protest the oppressive operations. When the armed forces and SAVAK officials--the secret police--tried to disperese demonstrators in this city last week, they killed 150 people and wounded over 2,000. Demonstrators attacked the SAVAK office in the city of Firuzabad and freed a group of political prisoners. Anti-government demonstrations also took place in Kermanshah and Rezaiyeh. Economic [word indistinct] were destroyed as a result of the general strike. The movement against American intervention in Iranian affairs has gained in intensity.

[Moscow in Persian to Iran at 1130 GMT on 2 January 1979 reports:

[Widespread antigovernment demonstrations continued in Iran on the first day of the new Christian year. The sound of machinegun and automatic fire could be heard in the capital and other cities. In Ilam and Khorramshar the municipality buildings were set on fire and were destroyed. Bloody clashes continued throughout the day between demonstrators and soliders in Mashhad, and according to AFP, the number killed and wounded exceed 2,000; new army units arrived in the city.

[In the city of Dezful soldiers opened fire on the demonstrators and killed or wounded hundreds of people.

[The National Front opposed to the regime has issued a statement on these cruelties which says that the ruling authorities cannot resolve the country's political crisis through killing thousands of people. General Azhari, the head of the military government who took office in early November in order to crush the widespread demonstrations of the people against the present regime and put an end to the strike struggle which has engulfed the entire country, has resigned. According to Radio Tehran, the shah accepted Azhari's resignation and proposed that he act as prime minister until the formation of a new cabinet. Earlier Gholam Hoseyn Sadiqi, a civilian political personality, also made such an attempt, but since no prominent politician showed readiness to participate in his cabinet, abandoned this task.

[The opposition forces have condemned Shahpur Bakhtiar for his agreement to cooperate with the regime and declared him expelled from the Iran party in which he was a leader. Some 700 medical workers in Mashhad have asked UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim to take action to prevent the bloody massacre of the people at the hands of the Iranian Army. There is no place for the wounded, who are the victims of this bloodshed, in the city hospitals.

[In a commentary on the situation in Iran the New York TIMES writes: The daily increasing incidents in Iran have completely rejected the view that only fanatical religious leaders and political radicals are opposed to the present regime. It is now clear that farmers, tradesmen and the majority of the middle class wish to eliminate it. It is becoming increasingly clear that the opposition is representative of the majority of the people of the country. The newspaper writes on the history of reciprocal relations of Washington with the Iranian regime: In fact we created this regime; through a coup staged by the CIA, we toppled the legal government and put this regime in power; we (?equipped) the secret police, SAVAK, and helped to define the regime's economic and political policies.

[UPI reports that the Tehran embassies of the United States, Canada and the Republic of South Africa and nine West European countries have asked their nationals to leave because of the further deterioration in the situation in Iran. Over 1,000 Iranian and foreign passengers have been delayed at Tehran airport, which is under army supervision; they were unable to leave because of a strike by airport workers. According to a French national living in Mashhad, demonstrations by the people of this city are anti-American in nature.]

SCHLESINGER TO USE 'ARMTWISTING' ON MIDEAST TRIP

LD292259Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 29 Dec 78 LD

[From "Window on the Arab World" program]

[Text] AFP reported that U.S. Secretary of Energy James Schlesinger will be visiting Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the UAE. No details on the visit or its aims were given, but it is not difficult to guess. Some days ago, James Schlesinger was very annoyed with the decision the OPEC ministers made at their Abu Dhabi conference. He said he was going to use every means to have the decision reexamined.

What are these means? Most probably they are the usual means Washington resorts to in such situations. This is called armtwisting and therefore, instead of holding political talks, economic and political intimidation is used as well as threats to suspend deliveries of essential equipment or raise the prices of U.S. goods which are exported to this or that Arab country and so on. It is true that the policy of armtwisting has recently begun to be less effective as Michael Blumenthal, Schlesinger's colleague, found out for himself. Before the convening of the Abu Dhabi conference, Blumenthal visited these same countries for the same purpose. This, however, did not affect the decision of the oil countries. The price of oil was raised by an average of 14.5 percent.

What will Schlesinger be carrying in the way of trump cards? So far, news reports mention only the U.S. intention to send an aircraft carrier to the gulf to frighten the Iranians, who are struggling against the shah's regime, and at the same time to strengthen Schlesinger's mission. It is as if he were saying: Talk is talk but action is action. Washington reports as well as U.S. press reports have mentioned the existence of a very secret plan to protect U.S. oil interests in the gulf area by military means.

EGYPT'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS DUE TO 'OPEN-DOOR' POLICY

LD301421Y Moscow TASS in English 1250 GMT 30 Dec 78 LD

["Fruits of a Pernicious Course"--TASS headline]

[Text] Cairo, December 30, TASS--TASS correspondent Konstantin Dudarev reports:

President as-Sadat of Egypt has ordered stronger security measures in the capital and other major cities of the country as of January 1, New Year.

Though no reason was given for these measures, the unanimous opinion of political commentators is that they are connected with a rise in prices of a whole number of commodities and public services next year. A rise is expected specifically in prices of gasoline, tobacco and a number of other commodities. Railway and urban public transport fare will be more expensive.

That the security troops and the police have been alerted patently illustrates the apprehensions of the authorities that early next year events could take place similar to those which happened 2 years ago, when the whole country was swept by mammoth demonstrations of protest against the economic policy of the present Egyptian leadership after the announcement of a rise in prices of basic food products and essentials.

It was earlier reported that as of January 1, 1979, the Egyptian pound will be devalued. And though As-Sadat in his recent speech to the parliamentary faction of the national democratic party he heads, promised that prices of food products and essentials would remain unchanged, there is almost no doubt that devaluation of the Egyptian pound will entail a new sharp rise in prices of all commodities.

The grievous plight of the Egyptian economy is a direct result of the "open door and economic liberalisation" policy, carried out by the present leadership, the policy which actually made it possible for foreign and local private capital to plunder the country.

DEVALUATION OF EGYPTIAN CURRENCY TO BE EXPLOITED

LD021630Y Moscow TASS in English 1543 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Cairo, January 2, TASS--A devaluation of local currency, actually the largest ever carried out in the country, has been announced in Egypt. By declaring its renunciation of the pound's official exchange rate in favour of the "preferential" rate, used in business with Western firms, the Egyptian leadership has, thereby, recognized an almost 80 percent devaluation of the Egyptian pound in respect to the dollar.

According to the now cancelled official exchange rate, one U.S. dollar equalled to 39 piastres (one Egyptian pound equals 100 piastres). From now on, says the newspaper AL-AHRAM, all the export-import transactions of Egypt will be carried out on the basis of the new exchange rate, according to which one U.S. dollar equals 69.5 piastres.

The actual devaluation of the Egyptian pound has been carried out under the pressure of Egypt's Western partners, particularly the International Monetary Fund, which has long since insisted on the introduction of the Egyptian pound's "real exchange rate" in respect to the dollar, conditioned further financial aid to Egypt on its consent to devaluate the national currency.

In spite of the fact that we have here merely an official recognition of the already existing situation, the devaluation announced will be exploited by private sector dealers for further raising the prices of all goods and services, which grew steadily of late as it is. This will be facilitated by the price raise on gasoline, cigarettes, beer, cold drinks and some other goods, announced a few days ago.

The devaluation of the pound is directly due to the "open doors and economic liberation" policy pursued by the present Egyptian leadership, which not only failed to resolve Egypt's numerous economic problems, but multiplied the existing difficulties. The present measure, as well as the constant growth of prices on many commodities, shows that the authorities are seeking a way out of the present predicament at the expense of the interests of the broad working masses.

PLO OFFICIALS COMMENT ON RESISTANCE ANNIVERSARY

Faruq Qaddumi Interviewed

LD311308Y Moscow TASS in English 1235 GMT 31 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, December 31, TASS--(from Anatoliy Borisov, a TASS correspondent).

The Palestinian resistance movement which had begun an active armed struggle against the Israeli invaders on January 1, 1965 has scored great successes, Faruq Qaddumi, head of the Political Department of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), said in an interview with the TASS correspondent. At present many countries of the world recognize the legitimate right of the Arab people of Palestine to return to their lands, to self-determination and to the establishment of an independent state of their own. The PLO became a full and equal member of the League of Arab States, plays an active role in the movement of non-aligned countries, and participates in U.N. work as observer. There are PLO missions in many states of the world including the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community.

The Soviet Union has been and remains in the vanguard of forces that are friendly to the Arab people of Palestine and the entire Arab nation, Faruq Quaddumi went on to say, having emphasized that the help which is rendered by the Soviet Union to Arab countries is highly appreciated in the Arab world, expressed deep gratitude to the friendly Soviet people, specially emphasizing the role of Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, in ensuring support for the struggle which the Arab people of Palestine wages for its national rights.

The Palestinian leader condemned the strategems of the USA, Israel and Egypt aimed at keeping the occupation of Arab territories and consolidating U.S. presence in the region. Any just settlement in the Middle East, he pointed out, must be brought about with equal participation of all the sides concerned, including the PLO and the Soviet Union whose presence is the main guarantee of the establishment of a lasting and just peace in the region.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1400 GMT 1 Jan 79 LD adds: Qaddumi criticized the maneuvers of the United States of America, Israel and Egypt aimed at maintaining the occupation of Arab territories and consolidating the American presence in the region.]

'Arafat's Message to Palestinians

LD011402Y Moscow TASS in English 1305 GMT 1 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Beirut, January 1, TASS--There can be no peace and stability in the Middle East without recognition of the legitimate (?national) rights of the Arab people of Palestine (?for) their selfdetermination and to the establishment of their own independent state. This was said in a message of Y. 'Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization to the Palestinian people on the occasion of the 14th anniversary of the beginning of active armed struggle by the Palestine resistance movement against the Israeli invaders.

We shall fight for a just and lasting peace in the region against capitulatory policy and attempts to impose imperialist and neocolonialist plans on the Arab people, the message stressed.

After condemning the Camp David agreements Y. 'Arafat said that imperialism and reaction are not only against the Palestinian revolution and the legitimate rights of the people of Palestine but also against all the Arab nation and its future. To stand up to these conspiracies, he stressed, it is necessary to strengthen inter-Arab unity, to develop and strengthen relations with the progressive forces and friendly countries and to give a strong rebuff to capitulatory plans.

Soviet Solidarity Committee Congratulations

LD010002Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1200 GMT 31 Dec 78 LD

[Text] The Presidium of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countries has sent a telegram of congratulation to Mr Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, on the occasion of the 14th anniversary of the emergence of the Palestinian resistance movement. The telegram says: The Soviets, while celebrating this glorious anniversary, send their warm congratulations to the entire Palestinian people, and voice their firm conviction on the inevitability of the victory of the just cause of the Palestinian people.

Under the leadership of its recognized vanguard, the PLO, the resistance movement has become a combat detachment in the struggle against imperialism waged by the Arab peoples against the Israeli aggression and the plots of imperialism, Zionism and reaction in the Middle East. The telegram outlines that the just cause of the valiant people of Palestine is enjoying the firm and (?decisive) support of the Soviet Union.

The Soviets firmly condemn the [words indistinct] that imperialism and [word indistinct] are trying to impose on the Arabs with a view to perpetuating the occupation of their lands, and depriving the Palestinians of their rights to self-determination. The Soviets voice their readiness to further consolidate Soviet-Palestinian friendship and solidarity. [words indistinct] the Arabs. The telegram also expresses the firm conviction that the increasing of revolutionary solidarity between all the Arab nationalist and progressive forces and the increasing of their unity benefit the just cause of the Palestinian people.

TASS REPORTS PDRY SUPREME PEOPLE'S COUNCIL MEETING

LD291615Y Moscow TASS in English 1508 GMT 29 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Aden, December 29, TASS--A session of the Supreme People's Council, the first elected parliament in the history of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, has ended here. The current Supreme People's Council was elected as a result of free and direct elctions, which testifies to the strengthening of democracy in the country, bears out the genuine, popular nature of the regime.

The session approved (?the composition) of the supreme organs of state power, formed an 11-man Presidium of the Supreme People's Council. 'Abd al-Fatah Isma'il, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Yemeni Socialist Party, was elected chairman of the presidium.

The session unanimously elected 'Ali Nasir Muhammad prime-minister of the governme[illegible]. He will also discharge the functions of finance minister.

The session elected the supreme court and appointed the procurator general.

A program statement on behalf of the government was made at the session by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. He stressed the desire of the Government of Democratic Yemen to continue in its internal and external policy the line laid down by the first congress of the Yemeni Socialist Party. The government of the country, he said, is fully resolved to go on strengthening the relations with the countries of the socialist community, including the Soviet Union.

BREZHNEV REPORTEDLY WILL SEEK CLOSER TIES WITH SAUDIS

TA301856Y Paris AFP in English 1839 GMT 30 Dec 78 TA

[Text] Paris, Dec 30, (AFP)--The Soviet Union and Saudi Arabia will draw closer in the coming year, according to well-informed Eastern European sources, an Arabic-language weekly magazine published here said today.

Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev has sent two messages to Saudi leaders in recent weeks expressing "the desire of the Soviet leadership to turn a new page in its relations with Saudi Arabia and the hope of seeing diplomatic relations established between the two countries," the magazine, AN-NAHAR ARABE ET INTERNATIONAL reported.

Mr Brezhnev also spoke in the messages of the Soviet Union's desire to buy Saudi oil, it said.

CORRESPONDENT IN SYRIA REVIEWS 1978, COMMENTS ON OUTLOOK

LD292140Y Moscow TASS in English 2010 GMT 29 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Damascus, December 29, TASS--TASS correspondent V. Shchennikov reports:

The passing year was for the Syrian Arab Republic a year of hardships and struggle with the U.S.-Israeli-As-Sadat plan of a separate settlement of the Middle East crisis. This was a year of struggle for strengthening the national independence and building a new society. This year, Syria has become the symbol of struggle for a comprehensive and just settlement in the Middle East. A conference of the member-countries of the National Steadfastness Front was successfully held in Damascus and adopted a number of important decisions condemning As-Sadat's separatist policy and uniting the progressive Arab forces in their struggle against foreign interference and for the liquidation of the consequences of the Israeli aggression. This year was marked by the further consolidation of cooperation in different fields with the neighbouring Republic of Iraq.

All-sided cooperation of Syria with the countries of the socialist community, and the Soviet Union in particular, has been expanded considerably. The meetings of Syrian leaders with the leaders of the Soviet Union confirmed yet again the sincere and principled position of the Soviet Union in finding a solution to the Middle East crisis and supporting Syria in its anti-imperialist struggle.

The passing year is also marked by big achievements in the economic upbuilding of the country. The (?growth) of cooperation can be witnessed not only in the construction of the Euphrates hydropower station which became the symbol of the Soviet-Syrian friendship. Power-transmission lines built with the assistance of Soviet experts have crossed the country. Soviet friends are helping Syria to construct its roads and railways. The Syrian people are grateful to Soviet specialists--hydrogeologists, oil explorers, irrigation constructors and building workers, for their assistance.

Syria is entering 1979 having achieved considerable successes. There are important problems facing the country which its people will have to solve in new year. It can be confidently stated that following the traditions of struggle for the freedom of their country, the Syrian people will defend their rights to sovereignty and independent existence and will rebuff the forces of imperialism and reaction.

TURKISH CABINET APPROVES COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT WITH USSR

LD021520Y Moscow TASS in English 1421 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Ankara, January 2, TASS--The Council of Ministers of Turkey has approved the long-term Soviet-Turkish commercial agreement for 1979-1981 signed in Moscow on November 30th. The agreement provides for a considerable expansion of trade exchange between the two countries. Implementation of this important document, placing bilateral relations in trade on a long-term basis for the first time, marks a qualitatively new stage in the economic cooperation of the two neighbouring states, it is stressed by the newspaper CUMHURIYET.

The Turkish Minister of Trade Teoman Koprululer stated in an interview to the weekly YANKI that the relations of friendship and economic cooperation between Turkey and the USSR, the foundations for which were laid by V.I. Lenin and the founder of the Turkish Republic K. Ataturk, have been developed noticeably in recent years, which gives us the feeling of gratification. I believe, he stressed, that the strengthening of our relations will be beneficial not only for the peoples of the two countries, but will also contribute to the cause of ensuring international peace.

PARLIAMENTARIANS BLAME WEST FOR TURKEY'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

LD241226Y Moscow TASS in English 1024 GMT 24 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Ankara, December 24, TASS--Western countries' rapacious approach to Turkey has been strongly criticized by parliamentarians of the People's Republic Party, the leading party in the present government.

Speaking in the mixed budget commission of parliament, when discussing the state budget for 1979, Deputy S. Genc emphasised that the leading capitalist states ruthlessly exploited Turkey. The economic problems of the country are being steadily complicated, and all Western recipes are aimed at preventing (?democratization) of life and rehabilitation of the country's economy. Therefore, Turkey should itself resolve its problems and to take off, at long last, the Western straitjacket, said S. Genc. Turkey heavily lags behind economically because of its dependence on Western countries, said Deputy Ertez Suicmez.

Senator Niyazi Unsal has pointed out that the activities of the International Monetary Fund are contrary to the interests of Turkey. It is the capitalist powers which are mainly responsible for the fact that Turkey's external debt has run into 312,000 million Turkish lira. The International Monetary Fund, which grants loans to these or other countries, thoroughly studies their economic and political situation, and then helps establish American domination in their economy. With the help of the International Monetary Fund, the United States--which controls this organisation--grossly interferes into the internal affairs of Turkey, the parliamentarian stressed.

SOVIET-AFGHAN FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY HOLDS ELECTION MEETING

LD291213Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Dec 78 p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--On 21 December activists of the Soviet Society for Friendship and Cultural Ties with Afghanistan met for the fourth all-union report and election conference.

It was noted in the report and speeches that, as a result of the victory of the April people's revolution and the formation of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, qualitatively new favorable opportunities have been created for further strengthening relations of friendship and fruitful cooperation between the two countries. A significant contribution was made to their development by the recent visit to the USSR by Nur Muhammad Taraki, leader of Democratic Afghanistan, and the signing of the Treaty of Friendship, Neighborliness and Cooperation. It was stressed that the Soviet people are following with great attention the socioeconomic transformations taking place in Afghanistan and are prepared to continue helping the friendly Afghan people in every way to build a new society based on justice and equality.

Raz Mohammad Paktin, Afghan ambassador to the USSR, and (Aziz Rakhman Saidi), rector of Kabul University and head of the Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society delegation, who spoke at the conference, highly evaluated the friendship society's activity and wished it new successes.

The society's central board was elected. USSR Minister S.F. Antonov again became chairman.

SOVIET-AFGHAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION EXPANSION AGREEMENT

LD021820Y Kabul in English to South Asia 1400 GMT 10 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Following is a translation of the text of the agreement on expansion of economic cooperation between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, signed in Moscow last week:

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the Government of the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics, with due attention to the successful development of economic relations between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union and with willingness to consolidate and further expand economic cooperation between the two countries, have concluded the following agreement on the following terms:

Article 1. The permanent commission between the governments of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union on economic cooperation shall be established by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the Government of the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics.

Article 2. The duties of the permanent commission between the governments of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union pertaining to economic cooperation shall be as follows:

Inspection of the implementation of the agreements concluded between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union on economic, technical and trade cooperation. Study of the possibilities of further development of economic, technical and trade cooperation between the two countries. Provision and inspection of proposals made on matters of economic, technical and trade cooperation between the two countries.

Article 3. The commission, comprising of Afghan and Soviet sides, will meet at least once a year. The meetings of the commission shall be held alternately in Kabul and Moscow.

Article 4. The decisions of the commission shall be valid after being signed except if some other arrangement is [word indistinct] by the decisions made. The decisions which, according to the opinion of one of the two parties of the commission, shall be approved by the respective authorities of the country of the party concerned shall be valid after they are proclaimed by the president of the party concerned of the commission regarding the approval.

Article 5. The commission shall be busy working according to the charter of the commission which is an inseparable part of this agreement.

Article 6. This agreement shall be valid as of the date when it is signed. This agreement has been signed in the Moscow city on 5 December 1978 corresponding to 14 Qaws 1357 in two original copies in Dari and Russian languages, and both dates have equal validity, on behalf of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, on behalf of the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Appendix of Afghan-Soviet agreement:

Appendix of the agreement concluded between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union on the establishment of the permanent commission between the governments of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union on economic cooperation dated 5 December 1978:

Charter: Permanent commission between the governments of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union on economic cooperation.

The contracting parties approved the following charter on 5 December 1978 in accordance with Article 5 of the agreement between the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the Government of the Soviet Union on the establishment of a permanent commission between the governments of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union on economic cooperation:

Paragraph 1. The permanent commission between the governments of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union [word indistinct] economic commission which will have to [word indistinct] the (?condition) has been established for the purpose of helping in further development and consolidation of economic, technical cooperation and commercial ties between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union. The duties of the commission have been defined in Article 2 of the agreement on the establishment of a permanent commission between the governments of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union on economic cooperation.

Paragraph 2. The commission shall be established by both parties, Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, on equal footing. The president of each of the two parties in the commission shall inform the other party of the signing arrangement of its own side and the changes to be brought thereupon.

Paragraph 3. The commission shall meet at least once a year according to a proposed work program and after concurrence of the presidents of the two parties. Meetings of the commission shall be alternately held in one of the two countries and the meeting shall be chaired by the president of the party of the commission in whose country the meeting is held. Each party of the commission can invite a certain number as required of its advisers and experts to the meetings of the commission. Presidents of both parties shall agree on the meeting and its agenda [word indistinct] 1 month before it is held. In each session (?all) matters of trade will be examined and the matters which have been approved in agenda as the basis of the agreement jointly made by the presidents of the two parties in the beginning of the session shall be studied.

Paragraph 4. Decisions of the meetings of the commission shall be taken with the agreement of the two parties. The decisions of the commission shall be recorded in the protocol which is signed by the two parties. The heads of both parties in case they agree upon [as heard] can take decisions on urgent matters in the intervals between the meetings of the commission. These decisions should be registered in the protocol of the next session of the commission.

Paragraph 5. The decisions of the commission shall be valid in the way anticipated in Article 4 of the agreement on the establishment of the permanent commission between the governments of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union on economic cooperation.

Paragraph 6. The protocol of the session shall be supplied in both Dari and Russian languages and both sets shall be of equal validity.

Paragraph 7. For the purpose of performing its duties the commission can establish permanent and temporary organs, subcommissions and work groups. The commission shall determine the duties (?in its discretion) and the composition of its permanent and temporary organs which are busy carrying on their activity in accordance with the work program of the commission.

Paragraph 8. Each of the two parties shall appoint its responsible secretary. The responsible secretary of each of the two parties shall have the duty to organize the affairs of its party in the commission, to coordinate the activities of the permanent and temporary organs, to hire and organize necessary documents required by the meetings of the commission and to discharge other duties related to the activity of the commission. For discharging these duties the responsible secretaries shall establish permanent contacts between themselves.

Paragraph 9. The expenditures of holding the meetings of the commission (?and) permanent and temporary organs shall be met by the party in whose country the meeting is held. The travel expenses of the participants of the meetings of the commission and its permanent and temporary organs from Afghanistan to the Soviet Union and the Soviet Union to Afghanistan shall be paid by the country which sends its representatives to participate in the meeting.

Paragraph 10. (?The above) charter shall possibly be amended with agreement of the heads of both parties of the commission.

U.S. MILITARY BASES IN PHILIPPINES THREATEN SECURITY

LD021858Y Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Summary] After 3 years of talks in Manila, the representatives of the United States and the Philippines have agreed to introduce some amendments in the treaty governing the status of U.S. bases in the country. However, the communique on the talks notes that the American side will retain complete control over all military operations that may be launched from these bases. The public and the government of the republic feel that the existence of the bases affects all main fields of the country's political and economic life.

"The bases, that were originally set up to allegedly strengthen the country's defenses, have turned into a major threat to the security of the republic. The existence of the bases also poses a major foreign policy problem. In the light of the latest positive changes in Southeast Asia the existence of the United States bases in the Philippines looks outdated: They have become an obstacle to the strengthening of mutual trust and mutual understanding between the countries of the continent.

"This fact was stressed by nonalined countries in Colombo in August 1976. At that time the Philippines were not allowed to take part because having United States bases on its soil, the republic could hardly be regarded as a truly nonalined state. It was likewise clear to all that the existence of United States bases was incompatible with the sovereignty of the Philippines. Washington has always tried to use the bases as a means of influencing the independent foreign policy of the government of Ferdinand Marcos. This independent foreign policy was reflected, for example, in the establishment of diplomatic relations with socialist countries. There was an angry reaction in the American press when the Philippines normalized relations with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. When the two countries established diplomatic relations in 1976 they pledged not to allow their territory to be used by a foreign power for direct or indirect aggression or intervention against any other country of the region."

The people of the Philippines support the Marcos government: In a recent comment a prominent Filipino observer stressed that times have changed and the people of the Philippines now look at things with open eyes.

INDONESIAN FOREIGN MINISTER WARNS OF PRC EXPANSIONISM

LD021500Y Moscow TASS in English 1353 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Jakarta, January 2, TASS--The belligerent designs of the Peking leadership, which stresses, primarily, the inevitability of a third world war, are causing legitimate anxiety, it was stated by the Foreign Minister of Indonesia Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, who replied to the questions put by the influential Jakarta weekly TEMPO. The minister stressed that the recent "normalization" of the relations between the United States and the People's Republic of China "makes us follow attentively the policy of the United States". Mochtar Kusumaatmadja warned Washington against the attempts to "play the Peking card", since, as he said, this will lead to the expansion of China's aggressive and expansionist policy. The minister denied resolutely the reports that the American-Chinese rapprochement would promote the unfreezing of the relations between Indonesia and the People's Republic of China. The foreign policy of Jakarta, the minister noted, is determined in the Indonesian capital and not beyond the limits of the country.

China's position, however, has still not changed. This is borne out also by repeated statements of the Chinese leaders about the intention to back the subversive antigovernment groupings in South East Asia, and also by their "rather strange" attitude to the Overseas Chinese. A patent example of this is the problem of the ethnic Chinese in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, around which Peking has raised such a hullabaloo.

POSITION OF RELEASED INDONESIAN PRISONERS GRAVE

LD251300Y Moscow TASS in English 1145 GMT 25 Dec 78 LD

["In a Rightless Position"--TASS headline]

[Text] Jakarta, December 25, TASS--Another group of political prisoners, (?about) 935 people, were released in Indonesia. Thus, the number of released political prisoners in the country this year totals almost 10,100.

Valeriy Averin, a TASS commentator, writes:

They all had been charged with "being involved in the events of September 30, 1965, when the Communist Party and many democratic progressive organisations and parties were smashed up in the country as a result of a conspiracy of internal and international reaction. Despite the fact that their guilt was never proved, many have spent about 13 years incarcerated in the hardest condition.

Noting as a positive fact the release of people who had been unlawfully put into prisons and concentration camps, the world progressive public are demanding immediate release of all political prisoners whom the authorities unlawfully continue keeping imprisoned.

The position of the released political prisoners, however, cannot but arouse a serious concern. Upon gaining a formal freedom, they in practice become society's outcasts, destitute of the most elementary rights. During (?their) release those people are officially warned that it will be extremely difficult for them to find a job with the existence of many millions of unemployed in the country. They are also denied a normal housing and they practically have no means of subsistence.

The democratic public in Indonesia and progressive forces throughout the world resolutely demand that the former political prisoners be fully rehabilitated, the property that had been unlawfully confiscated during the (?arrests) be returned to them, and that they be fully restored in the their rights.

AUTHORITIES WILL RELEASE REMAINING PRISONERS IN 1979

LD301145Y Moscow TASS in English 1020 GMT 30 Dec 78 LD

[Excerpts] Jakarta, December 30, TASS--According to reports that reached here, one more group of political prisoners 1,031 in all, have been set free in Indonesia. This year the Indonesian authorities set free more than 10,000 people, who were kept in prisons and concentration camps without trial and investigation. The authorities promised to release the rest of the political prisoners before the end of 1979.

JCP ROLE IN JAPANESE POLITICAL LIFE PRAISED, ENCOURAGED

LD021039Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Dec 78 P 4 LD

[N. Vladimirov article: "In the Leading Ranks"]

[Text] One of the mighty currents of the world revolutionary process is the struggle--stepped up notably recently--of the working class in capitalist countries against the dominance and oppression of monopolies, for peace and social progress. This irreconcilable class struggle takes very acute forms in the highly developed capitalist countries. A vivid example of this is modern Japan.

Aimed at breaking from economic difficulties and overcoming the remaining consequences of the 1974-1975 crisis, the Japanese ruling circles are intensifying the exploitation of the working strata of the population and trying to transfer to them the burden of normalizing the economy. The situation is exacerbated by the fact that, in violation of the constitution, the working people's democratic rights and freedoms are suppressed.

The ruling circles' foreign policy course does not accord with the Japanese people's interests. Reflecting Japanese monopolies' interests, it is aimed at bringing Japan into the orbit of Washington's aggressive Far Eastern strategy and Peking's hegemonist policy, which endanger the cause of peace and security in Asia. The bellicose supporters of this line in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and the monopoly bourgeoisie persistently demand the accelerated implementation of such measures as the introduction of special "emergency" legislation, a sharp increase in military expenditure, increased production of arms within the country, more extensive purchases of sophisticated foreign military hardware and the creation of the country's own nuclear weapons--that is, the broad militarization of Japan and the stepping up of its military role in Asia.

This policy of the ruling circles cannot fail to cause concern among democratic forces, especially the Japanese working class. It encourages them to step up the struggle against Japanese reaction's dangerous actions and plans. Great significance in the development of this struggle is placed on the cohesion of all the country's progressive and peace-loving forces.

Today special importance is attached to the consistent calls by the Japan Communist Party [JCP] for establishment of firm joint action by the different detachments of Japanese democracy. As early as 1970, from the platform of their 11th congress, Japanese communists appealed to the country's progressive forces to take efforts to create a democratic coalition government in the seventies to replace the one-party conservative government and implement radical democratic transformations aimed at renewing all state policy. The JCP calls for the urgent solution of the three most important tasks: liquidating the Japanese-American military political alliance and establishing genuine Japanese neutrality; ending the pursuit of monopoly interest policy and implementing a policy of defending the people's life and rights; and preventing the resurgence and intensification of militarism, defending democracy and democratizing parliamentary activity.

Joint actions by all detachments of Japan's democratic movement in favor of the implementation of these tasks, in the Japanese communists' opinion, could form a basis for creating a broad, firm antimonopoly coalition of the country's progressive forces. [paragraph continues]

Under conditions in which the Japanese ruling circles are stepping up their reactionary domestic and foreign policy line, while American imperialism activates aggressive actions and the Chinese leaders show hegemonist aspirations in the Asian region, the creation of such a coalition is becoming increasingly urgent.

The JCP attaches particular significance to achieving unity of action with the Japanese Socialist Party [JSP]--the biggest parliamentary opposition party. In recent years notable positive shifts have been observed in this sphere of relations between the two political parties. In spring 1976 the JCP and the JSP agreed, in particular, to holding regular consultations regarding a united front. In June 1978 a new step forward was taken. As a result of talks between K. Miyamoto, chairman of the JCP Central Committee Presidium, and I. Asukata, chairman of the JSP Central Executive Committee, the parties reached agreement on joint efforts in opposing the Liberal Democratic Party's anti-popular policy and on seeking creation of a united front as a long-term task.

Today the struggle for peace and social progress is inextricably linked with the struggle for the relaxation of international tension and against the forces of domestic and international reaction, which seek to unleash new military conflicts and adventures. Great significance is attached to Japanese communists' consistent actions favoring the abrogation of the Japanese-American "security treaty," elimination of American military bases on the country's territory, neighborly relations with all countries, and a peaceful democratic path of development for Japan. Equally important is the JCP's consistent exposure of the dangerous foreign policy line of the Chinese leaders, who openly call for "preparation for a great war."

Coming out against these Peking aspirations in an editorial devoted to the recent visit to Japan by Teng Hsiao-ping, vice premier of the PRC State Council, AKAHATA, JCP central press organ, sharply condemned the Peking leadership's adventurist policy. Commenting on the Chinese leader's calls for increasing the might of the Japanese Armed Forces, known as the "Self-Defense Forces," and for strengthening the Japanese-American military alliance, the newspaper assessed them as a manifestation of "Peking's course, hostile to peace, of creating an international anti-Soviet front."

The Peking leaders' unceasing great-power interference in Japan's affairs, including the affairs of the country's democratic movement, is also subjected to sharp criticism from the JCP. Such interference, manifested in the desire to foist on Japanese progressive forces the notorious theory of the "three worlds" and other Maoist concepts, in the creation and encouragement of splittist organizations and groups and in attempts to disrupt the ranks of Japanese democrats and so forth, is justly regarded by Japan's communists as a departure by the CCP from the principles of proletarian solidarity and a betrayal of working class interests.

This Peking position, in the JCP's opinion, is retarding the development of the country's democratic forces' struggle and is grist to the mill of reaction. "The Chinese leadership's position," AKAHATA notes, "not only fails to oppose the policy of American imperialism and the Japanese ruling circles but, on the contrary, is aimed at encouraging that policy...."

Striving to build a socialist society in Japan, the JCP highly evaluates the significance of the Great October Revolution in Russia and the successes of real socialism. [paragraph continues]

The program document "Declaration of Freedom and Democracy" adopted at the extraordinary 13th party congress (1 July 1976), which develops and concretizes the main provisions of the party program, says in particular: "The victory of the Russian October Revolution, led by Lenin, was the first epochmaking step. In the last 50 years socialist revolutions have secured victory in a number of other countries in Europe, Asia and Latin America, where the building of a socialist society has been launched in practice....Socialism as a whole has achieved tremendous, historic successes. In the sphere of economic building and improving the people's living standards socialism has eliminated exploitation and need, guaranteed the people's freedom of existence and, in the sphere of developing the foundations of democracy, has insured the people's masses' active participation in public and political life. Apart from that, socialism has achieved tremendous results in the cause of defending national independence and peace against imperialist aggression."

The Japanese communists' struggle in defense of the working people's class interests and for peace and social progress is engendering malicious attacks against the JCP from Japanese reaction and rightwing reformist forces. At the same time the party has to combat leftist extremists, as well as all kinds of antiparty groups and elements. Attacks against the JCP, which are actively supported by American imperialism and Chinese splittists, constitute a part of the anticommunist campaign launched globally by world reaction. With the aim of undermining the JCP's influence among the masses, discrediting its struggle against imperialism and reaction and the oppression of Japanese monopolies and preventing the creation of a united antimonopoly front in Japan, attempts are made to accuse the JCP of undemocratic views, violence, conspiracy and so forth. The powerful mass propaganda media which are in the hands of monopoly capital fan the idea of the need to rally the forces of the so-called "middle way," which represent no threat to the existing system, and to create a so-called "united front" without the communists to isolate the JCP from the masses.

All this seriously impedes the party's day to day practical activity. Overcoming numerous difficulties and obstacles created by reactionary forces, the JCP is working to strengthen its ranks and broaden its influence among the masses under complex and unfavorable conditions. Today the Communist Party has approximately 400,000 members. The 14th JCP Congress set the task of increasing party membership to 500,000 in the very near future and to 1 million in the longer term. The Communist Party attaches great importance to its publishing activity. The total readership of the daily and Sunday issues of AKAHATA is over 3.3 million--the highest in the party's history.

Problems of strengthening the working people's international solidarity figure significantly in the JCP's activity. Japanese communists resolutely supported the struggle of Indochina's peoples against American aggression. And today they are firmly on the side of the heroic Vietnamese people, who are defending their independence and sovereignty against Peking's great-power expansionist encroachments.

Repelling reaction's attacks, strengthening its ranks and broadening its links with the masses, the JCP, with other detachments of the country's democratic movement is in the front ranks of the broad working people's masses in the struggle against the monopolies' domination and for peace and social progress. "The Japanese communists' struggle for the development of their country along the path of peace, neutrality and democracy and against imperialism and reaction," the CPSU Central Committee greeting to Comrade Kenji Miyamoto, JCP Central Committee Presidium chairman, on his 70th birthday points out, "is of great importance for guaranteeing peace and security in the Far East and throughout the world." Having made itself an influential force in Japanese society, the JCP is firmly defending the interests of the Japanese working class and making a major contribution to the development of the world revolutionary process.

TSVETOV CRITICIZES BROAD 'ANTI-SOVIET LINE' OF JAPANESE POLICY

OW291112Y Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 28 Dec 78 OW

[Tsvetov commentary]

[Text] MAINICHI SHIMBUN, commenting on Japan's failure in November to gain a nonpermanent seat in the UN Security Council, wrote that Japan's pro-U.S. foreign policy is apparently one of the factors responsible for the defeat. If we look at the Japan-China treaty, which was the most important Japanese diplomatic act this year, we will see that MAINICHI SHIMBUN's opinion is correct in every respect.

Since Peking began opposing the socialist camp and began seeking allies among the most bellicose international reactionaries, the United States has changed its attitude toward China. The Japan-China treaty was in response to this change in U.S. attitude. Prior to the treaty, Fukuda, then prime minister, went all the way to Washington attempting to conclude it.

Japan is also proud of its "diplomatic achievements" in Southeast Asia. YOMIURI SHIMBUN very aptly wrote that since the sole objective of Japanese policy in this area is to make profits, Bangkok refused to hold a regular meeting of the Japan-Thailand trade committee this year.

The conclusion of the Japan-China treaty has resulted in increased vigilance by Southeast Asian nations against Japan. Marcos, president of the Philippines, said Asian nations feel threatened by the closer relations between Japan and China.

World newspapers, including Japan's, in their reports about Japan's economic and trade relations with the United States and the EEC, often use the word "war." Trade and economic problems involving these countries have grown very intense. The United States and the EEC imposed on Japan the role of being a "locomotive" to pull the capitalist economies from the quagmire of recession, inflation and unemployment. In order to perform the role successfully, Japan had to achieve a growth rate of 7 percent. The task proved to be too heavy for Japan. At a meeting of seven so-called "industrialized nations" in December, Japan was severely criticized for its failure to attain the 7 percent growth rate. Needless to say, this would not help improve Japan's relations with the United States and the EEC.

The reactionary tendency of Japanese foreign policy also left its mark on Japan's relations with the USSR. As was previously noted, Japan concluded an anti-Soviet treaty with China. Japan kept stating that it seeks "friendship" with the Soviet Union. So far it has failed to prove its words with deeds. The Japanese Foreign Ministry has refused and is refusing to consider the Soviet-proposed draft treaty of friendship and cooperation.

The collapse of the Fukuda Cabinet came toward the end of the year. Ohira, the new prime minister, expressed his desire for an improvement in Japan-USSR relations. Some members of the Cabinet insist that Japan should move on from words to action. Kosaka, director general of the Economic Planning Agency, said it is necessary for Japan to study the Soviet-proposed draft treaty constructively. Foreign Minister Sonoda in his recent remarks indicated Japan's desire for expanding Japan-Soviet economic ties.

The new year, which is just around the corner, will show the nature of Japanese diplomacy and what new characteristics it will develop.

USSR OFFICIAL SENDS NEW YEAR MESSAGE TO JAPANESE PEOPLE

OW021023Y Moscow in Japanese to Japan 0830 GMT 31 Dec 78 OW

[New Year's message to the Japanese people from Boris (Uguynovich), chief of the Secretariat of the USSR-Japan Society--read by announcer]

[Excerpts] Today I would like to recall some of the interesting and useful activities of the Soviet and Japanese friendship organizations that have promoted friendship and neighborliness between the two nations this year.

First, I'd like to mention the first 5-year cultural and academic exchange program signed by the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the Japan Association for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries. Envisaged in the program are exchanges of delegations and tourist groups, the holding of symposiums and other meetings, exhibitions and film shows, and other activities to promote friendship and mutual understanding between the Soviet and Japanese peoples.

We are very happy that, this year, a joint delegation of representatives of Japanese friendship organizations visited the USSR. We had very fruitful talks and meetings with this delegation. Through these talks and meetings, we found new ways to further develop ties between friendship organizations in the two countries.

As we did last year, members of the USSR-Japan Society met with various delegations and tourist groups from Japan in Moscow and other Soviet cities this year. A major event for the USSR-Japan Society was its general meeting held in June to commemorate the 20th founding anniversary of the society.

Analysis of the developments in USSR-Japan relations over the past 20 years indicates that, thanks to the efforts of both sides, many achievements have been made despite various difficulties and complex factors. We can say this confidently. Political contracts have expanded, trade and economic cooperation has made smooth headway and exchanges in the scientific, technological and cultural areas have continued to grow. However, as emphasized at the general meeting, many more things have to be done to insure that positive development becomes a constant factor in USSR-Japan relations and that friendship and neighborliness become the rule of our relations.

Members of the USSR-Japan Society are firmly convinced that the two nations have great potential for further developing the friendship movements. Our society is constantly growing. This proves that the USSR-Japan society is increasing its popularity among the Soviet people and that the Soviet people desire friendship with their Japanese neighbors.

Members of the "Friends of the Soviet Union" in Japan and all Japanese people--Happy New Year!

ROMANOV MEETS WITH CUBA'S FIDEL CASTRO IN HAVANA

LD030712Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 3 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the State Council and Council of Ministers, had a meeting with Romanov, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member, first secretary of the Leningrad Gorkom, head of the Soviet party-government delegation in Havana participating in the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Cuban revolution victory.

Comrade Romanov imparted to Fidel Castro most cordial congratulations from Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on the occasion of the glorious jubilee of the Cuban revolution.

During the conversation, which took place in the atmosphere of full understanding and fraternity characteristic of the relations between the CPSU and the Cuban Communist Party and the two countries and peoples, a friendly exchange of opinions took place on questions of mutual interest.

EMERGENCY MEETING OF OAS TO DISCUSS NICARAGUA REPORTED

LD291028Y Moscow TASS in English 0830 GMT 29 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Washington, December 29, TASS--An emergency meeting of the Organisation of American States was held on Thursday here. It was convened at the request of the Costa Rican Government to examine the serious threat to peace in Central America, which was created as a result of a sharp escalation of armed provocations by the Somoza regime against the neighbour countries.

A Costa Rican representative noted that the Somoza dictatorship of Nicaragua issued open threats of war against Costa Rica and began massing troops and equipment in the border areas. He stressed that Somoza who found himself in full isolation in the country, hopes to consolidate his position by means of foreign military adventures and pave the ground for fresh repressions against opposition at home. The Costa Rican delegate demanded urgent convocation of a conference of foreign ministers of the member-countries of the Organisation of American States to take urgent measures to prevent the aggression being prepared.

On the proposal of a number of delegations, who referred to the necessity of "consulting" their governments, voting was postponed till Friday at Costa Rica's request.

PARTY, STATE NEW YEAR"S GREETINGS HAIL ACHIEVEMENTS

LD312054Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1750 GMT 31 Dec 78 LD

[New year's greetings issued by the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers to the Soviet people]

[Text] Dear comrades, friends: The year 1978 is passing into history. The Soviet people are seeing it off with a feeling of just pride. This has been a year of fruitful labor in implementing the historic decisions of the 25th party congress and the first year of operation of the new USSR Constitution. Our people have achieved new successes in communist construction. As a result, our great homeland's material and spiritual strength and its international prestige have grown still more, the efficiency of social production and work quality increase steadily, and the output of industrial production is growing. Hundreds of major enterprises and units have come into operation, a record grain harvest of 235 million tons has been marked by major achievements. Outstanding spaceflights, in which three international crews from the socialist countries participated, will forever go down in the chronicles of the conquest of the universe. The masters of multinational Soviet culture have created new, vivid works. The plans for raising the material well-being and cultural standards of the Soviet people, which were mapped out by the party, are being successfully fulfilled. Over 2 million well-appointed apartments, many schools, kindergartens and nurseries, hospitals, and cultural establishments have been constructed. Thus, the achievements of our national economy are being embodied in joyful changes tangible to each family and to each Soviet citizen.

The Soviet people link all their achievements with the might of the inviolable alliance of the working class, kolkhoz peasantry and people's intelligentsia, the constantly strengthening friendship of the peoples of the USSR and the wise leadership of the Communist Party, its Leninist Central Committee, the Politburo of the Central Committee, headed by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev. In its multifaceted activity the party leans on the wholehearted support of the Soviet people. Guided by the all-conquering teaching of Marxism-Leninism and creatively developing it, the party is leading the Soviet people on the road to the building of communism.

The Soviet people are entering the new year, 1979, confidently. They are inspired by the decisions of the July and November plenums of the CPSU Central Committee and the speeches by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, which set forth a militant program of activity for the party and people for further developing the country's productive forces and achieving new limits [zavoyevaniye novykh rubezhey] in economic, social and cultural construction.

The working people are engaged in a selfless struggle to implement the party's plans, and are raising even higher the banner of socialist competition for the successful fulfillment and overfulfillment of the plan of the 10th 5-year period. Honor and glory to you, dear fellow countrymen, for your valiant labor for the good of our great motherland!

Elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet take place in March 1979; let them be a new and clear demonstration of the close cohesion of Soviet people around their own Communist Party, a triumph of socialist democracy!

Dear comrades: 1978 was a year of energetic foreign policy activity by the CPSU and Soviet state directed toward further developing detente, toward curbing the arms race, toward strengthening peace and friendship between peoples.

The efforts of the Soviet Union, the fraternal socialist countries and all peace-loving forces of the planet have made it possible, despite the resistance from opponents of detente, to make peace on earth more reliable.

The international position of our homeland is firm as never before. Dealing a resolute rebuff to the aggressive intrigues of the imperialists and their minions, we will continue to do all that is necessary to secure the peaceful creative toil of Soviet people and to strengthen the community of the socialist countries, to consolidate the cause of world peace.

The peaceful initiatives put forward by the Soviet Union at the UN General Assembly and the declaration of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee conference open up new horizons for international cooperation and are actively supported by the peoples.

The Soviet people send cordial NewYear's greetings to the working people of the socialist countries, to all communists and democrats struggling against imperialism, racialism, reaction and war, and warmly congratulate the peoples of the young independent states building a new life, all people of good will who favor peace, democracy and social progress. We wish them new successes in their just struggle.

Dear comrades, friends: The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers send cordial New Year's greetings to the workers, kolkhoz farmers, and intelligentsia, the students, the young, the veterans of the revolution, war and labor, our valiant fighting men vigilantly guarding the sacred borders of our homeland. Ardent congratulations to all who are now at their labor and military [boyevoy] posts, on the road, at sea and in the air; who are working far from their native land: Happiness and joy to you and your families, dear comrades! Good health and new successes in work, study and creation. May there always be a peaceful sky above the earth! A Happy New Year! And happiness!

SHCHERBITSKIY AT PARTY CONFERENCE IN DONETSK, TOURS OBLAST

AU281555 [Editorial Report AU] Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian on 24 December carries on page 1 a RATAU-attributed 3,400-word report on a routine oblast party conference held in Donetsk on 23 December to discuss the tasks of party organizations in implementing the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, the November 1978 CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the instructions contained in the speech delivered at the plenum by L. I. Brezhnev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman. According to the report, "Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian CP Central Committee first secretary, warmly received by the audience, delivered a speech at the conference."

On pages 1 and 2 the same issue offers a RATAU-attributed 4,500-word report on V.V. Shcherbitskiy's speech.

In continuation, the paper carries on page 2 a 950-word RATAU-attributed report on V.V. Shcherbitskiy's visit to the oblast. While visiting Donetskaya Oblast, the report says, he met obkom bureau members at obkom headquarters. "Questions concerning organizational and political work performed by the oblast party organization to implement the 25th CPSU Congress decisions were closely examined in a conversation. Particular emphasis was put on the considerable role played by the oblast economy in accomplishing the tasks of the fuel and power complex, in developing metallurgy and other national economic branches."

According to the same report, V.V. Shcherbitskiy visited the Abakumov mine of the Donetsk Coal Mining Association, the All-Union Respirator Scientific and Production Association, inspected a stockbreeding complex belonging to the G.I. Petrovskiy interfarm enterprise in Volnovakhskiy Rayon, and had a prolonged conversation in the Volnovakhskiy Raykom headquarters about living conditions in the countryside. The report says that "Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy was accompanied on the tour by B.V. Kachura, Ukrainian CP Central Committee Politburo candidate member and Dometskiy Obkom first secretary; D.M. Gridasov, oblispolkom chairman; and N.K. Grinko, Ukrainian minister of the coal industry."

PARTY, STATE LEADERS NOMINATED TO SUPREME SOVIET

LD022006Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 2 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpts] Pre-election meetings continue to be held throughout the country. The working people are unanimously naming the leaders of the CPSU and the Soviet state as the first candidates for deputies to the USSR Supreme Soviet.

A pre-election meeting of the collective of the 25/52 motor transport column of Tselinograd unanimously decided to nominate as candidates for deputy to the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union from the Tselinograd constituency Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and Valentin Petrovich (Shcherbakov).

Participating in pre-election meetings of production collectives nominated as candidates for deputy to the USSR Supreme Soviet Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, Dinmukhamed Akhmedovich Kunayev, Arvid Yanovich Pelshe, Grigoriy Vasilyevich Romanov, Dmitriy Fedorovich Ustinov, Vladimir Vasilyevich Shcherbitskiy, Geydar Ali Rza Ogly Aliyev, Petr Nilovich Demichev, Petr Mironovich Masherov, Mikhail Sergeyevich Solomentsev, Eduard Amvrosyevich Shevardnadze, Vladimir Ivanovich Dolgikh, Mikhail Vasilyevich Zimyanin, Yakov Petrovich Ryabov and Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev.

GEORGIAN CP PLENUM VIEWS LAGS, REMOVES OFFICIALS

LD291157Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Dec 78 p 2 LD

[Correspondent G. Lebanidze dispatch: "Strengthening Discipline"]

[Text] Tbilisi--These days reports on labor achievements are arriving from every part of the republic. Georgian industry has fulfilled ahead of schedule the plan for the third year of the 5-year plan for the production and sale of most essential products. By the end of the year articles totaling more than R408 million above the plan will have been sold. The multinational collective of construction workers at the Inguri GES--that giant of the Transcaucasian power industry--has prepared an excellent new year gift. In the past month two turbines have been placed under an industrial workload there and a third will join them shortly. The motherland has also been gladdened by the tea plantation workers who produced an unprecedented crop of "green gold." Viticulturists and grain and citrus growers have performed excellently.

These and many other successes and the current major and complex problems were discussed at a 19 December Georgian CP plenum, which discussed the republic party organization's tasks in implementing the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum and the instructions contained in Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech at the plenum.

The report was delivered by E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee. He noted that the republic's economic and social development is characterized by steady, dynamic growth, improvements in the sectoral structure of the economy and constant improvement in working people's prosperity. CPSU Central Committee resolutions on the work of party organizations in Georgia have played a decisive role here.

The growth of national income is above the 5-year plan target. The proportion of total gross output in the top quality category increased from 2.3 percent to 10.4 percent in 3 years. The capital construction situation has improved. A total of 4.8 million square meters of housing has been constructed in the first 3 years of the 5-year plan.

However, dissatisfaction at what has been achieved was also voiced in speeches at the plenum. The main speaker and others participating in the discussion, including B.V. Adleyba, first secretary of Abkhazskiy Obkom; V.R. Papunidze, first secretary of Adzharskiy Obkom; N.V. Gurgenidze, second secretary of Tbilisi Gorkom; T.A. Dagelashvili, spinner at the Goriyskiy cotton textile combine; and V.M. Goncharov, mechanic at the Elektrovozostroitel Production Association, spoke of existing shortcomings and untapped resources whose utilization would help speed up the improvement of social production efficiency.

It is necessary to eliminate the laggardness in such important sectors as the power industry, machinebuilding and the chemical industry. Concern is aroused by the fact that the labor productivity growth outlined by the 5-year plan is not being insured in a number of sectors. The special attention of leaders of ministries, departments, associations and enterprises was drawn to this point.

Speaking of the state of agricultural production, the speakers noted that since the beginning of the 5-year plan average annual gross output in that sector compared with the corresponding period in the Ninth 5-Year Plan increased by 27.8 percent as against the planned 22 percent. However, many losses are also tolerated. For instance, public sector farms annually underproduce more than 25,000 tons of fruit and 80,000 tons of grapes due to insufficiently dense planting alone. A balance of resources and production capacities between agriculture and processing industry has still not been achieved. Storage and processing capacities are far behind the volume of raw material procurements.

It was stated from the plenum platform that a policy of efficiency and quality goes hand in hand with accelerated scientific and technical progress. Valid criticism was directed at the republic State Committee for Science and Technology, the Presidium of the republic Academy of Sciences, and ministries and departments that are still not concentrating enough effort on key trends in national economic development and do not always actively try to insure that new scientific ideas and technical decisions are introduced into production.

Measures for further improving the style and methods of party work were discussed. The speakers focused attention on the need for the strictest observance of Leninist norms of party life and the principles of leadership. These presuppose the proper implementation of cadre policy, high exactingness and the broad development of criticism and self-criticism. It is important not to lose contact with the masses, to fight sycophancy and servility and to work without fuss. Those who cannot critically evaluate their work inevitably lose authority. It was for precisely this reason that the Georgian CP Central Committee was obliged to relieve of their posts the Kazbegskiy and Tsulukidzevskiy raykom secretaries and also the secretary of Tbilisi's 26 Kommissarov Raykom. [paragraph continues]

The need to increase leadership cadres' personal responsibility, to monitor the implementation of decisions more closely, and to strengthen discipline all round was discussed as the most important task arising from the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November Plenum.

Discussing the tasks of ideological work, the plenum participants devoted a great deal of attention to the struggle against relapses into philistine and petit bourgeois thinking and the assertion of the socialist way of life. Georgia is preparing for the celebrations to mark as a wonderful holiday the bicentenary of the historic document--the Georgiyevskiy Treaty--that forever united the destinies of the Russian and Georgian peoples. The preparations for this date, the plenum pointed out, must serve as a powerful stimulus for further improving international and patriotic education.

The plenum approved in the main the draft Georgian plan for economic and social development and budget for 1979.

Firm confidence was expressed that under the leadership of the party organizations the republic's working people will do their utmost to unconditionally fulfill the tasks set by the CPSU Central Committee November Plenum and the 25th party congress.

AFP: Health Minister Dismissed

TA251613Y Paris AFP in English 1603 GMT 25 Dec 78 TA

[Text] Moscow, Dec 25, (AFP)--Georgian Health Minister Ilya Zedginidze has been dismissed for failing to improve health services in the Georgian Republic, the (?area) Communist Party newspaper has reported.

First Secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Eduard Shevardnadze announced the sacking in his closing speech at the party Central Committee's final plenary session on Dec 19, ZARYA VOSTOKA reported in its latest edition received here.

"Unfortunately we are forced to take radical steps when other measures regarding certain officials who fail to fulfill their duties prove insufficient," Mr Shevardnadze told the committee according to the newspaper.

Mr Zedginidze was sacked for failing to put into practice decisions taken by the committee on health service improvements, the paper explained.

RASHIDOV ADDRESSES TASHKENT SESSION ON 'CULTURAL BUILDING'

LD021659Y Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 19 Dec 78 p 1 LD

(UZTAG reports: "Raising Living Conditions Is a Nationwide Task"]

[Excerpts] A session of the republic council for raising the population's living conditions was held in Tashkent yesterday under the chairmanship of Sh.R. Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee. Urgent questions of cultural building were examined in the light of the tasks advanced in the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee July and November plenums and in the speeches of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Comrade Sh. R. Rashidov delivered a speech at the session.